

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. XLIII.]

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY, 1896.

No. 6.

CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.	105
Leading Articles:—	
England, France, and Siam	106
The Position of Foreigners in Japan after Treaty Revision	106
Proposed Registration of Native Doctors and Midwives	107
The Opening of the West River	107
Collapse of the Chinese Reform Association	107
Germany and the Transvaal	108
Reported German Occupation of Quemoy	108
The Opening of the West River	108
Captain Ballentyne's Case at Saigon	108
Supreme Court	108
Hongkong Sanitary Board	108
The Recent Rains and the Water Supply	109
Boycotting a French Steamer Line	110
Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited and Reduced	110
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	110
The West Point Building Co., Limited	111
The Kowloon Land and Building Co., Limited	111
The Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Co., Limited	112
China Fire Insurance Co., Limited	112
The Punjoni Mining Co., Limited	112
Raub	113
Victoria Recreation Club.—Gymnastic Competition	113
Crickets	114
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club	114
Hongkong Golf Club	115
Correspondence:—	
Raub	115
Punjoni Mining Co., Limited	115
England, France, and Siam	115
Collapse of the Chinese Reform Association	115
Anti-Opium Crusade at Ichang	116
The Russian Minister Insulted	116
The Shanghai Branch of the China Association	116
Hongkong and Port News	116
Commercial	118
Shipping	120

MARRIAGE.

On the 23rd November, at the Catholic Church, Newmarket, county Cork, by the Rev. J. MacSwiney, P.P., GEORGE HENNESSY, Inspector of Police, Hongkong, to SCARINA, youngest daughter of the late BARRY TAYLOR, of Lisdoonahilly. [379]

DEATHS.

On the 31st December, 1895, at Stamford, Lincolnshire, after a long and painful illness, SELINA ELIZABETH, the dearly loved wife of GEORGE HORSPOOL, of No. 1, Rutland Place, Stamford, late Deputy Superintendent of Police and Assistant Superintendent of Fire Brigade, Hongkong. [373]

On the 1st February, 1896, at his residence "The Rest," Macao, JOHN ROBINSON WHITE, late of Hongkong, aged 65 years. [369]

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 3rd January arrived, per M. M. steamer *Melbourne*, on the 1st February (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The annual meeting of the West Point Building Co., Limited, was held on the 3rd February, when the report and accounts were adopted.

Captain Ballentyne, of the steamer *Flintshire*, who was sentenced to a term of imprisonment at Saigon on a charge of assisting two French soldiers to desert, has been acquitted by the Court of Appeal.

At Kobe on the 25th January a serious fire occurred on board the N.Y.K. steamer *Tenshinmaru*. Three Japanese lost their lives by suffocation while working in the 'tween decks.

At the general meeting of the Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited, to be held on the 11th February, a final dividend for the year 1895 of 4½ per cent. (making 7½ per cent. for the year) will be proposed.

The Chinese at Singapore propose "to follow the excellent example set them by their compatriots in Hongkong"—(the phrase must be credited to the *Straits Times*)—and establish a Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

The Russian Minister while out riding at Peking was stopped by a mob, who were with difficulty restrained from proceeding to actual violence. The cause of the demonstration is said to be the opposition of the people to the railway scheme.

The Raub concession of the Malay Peninsula Prospecting Co., Limited, has been cancelled, owing to its not being worked. The Raub Australian Gold Mining Company holds its concession direct from the Government of Pahang and is in no way affected by the cancellation.

The half-yearly meeting of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited, was held on the 31st January, when the report and accounts were adopted. It was announced by the Chairman that two new steamers had been ordered in anticipation of the opening of the West River.

The *Anne Main*, a British iron barque, Captain Croal, has been totally wrecked on the Gotos. The *Anne Main* was a barque of 449 tons, built at Glasgow in 1867. She left Shanghai on the 17th January for Nagasaki, to load a cargo of coals for Shanghai. No mention is made of the crew, but it is anticipated that all have been saved.

An organised opposition to the steamers of the Compagnie Tonkinoise having been established at Pakhoi and Hoilow a French gunboat proceeded to the former place to support the French Consul's claim for redress. The demonstration proved effective and the Company's vessels are not now interfered with, but a claim for damages is still pending.

The annual report of the Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Co., Limited, shows that the net profits of last year's working, including \$1,438 brought forward from last account, amount to \$11,706, out of which it is proposed to pay a dividend at the rate of eight per cent., absorbing \$7,800, to place \$2,500 to the credit of reserve fund, and to carry forward the balance of \$1,406 to new profit and loss account.

As an indication of the approaching realisation of the Peking-Tientsin Railway, it is reported that large numbers of wealthy Chinese and Manchus in the capital have recently been buying up all land available within the vicinity of the terminus at Lukou Bridge in the western suburbs of Peking. Land in that quarter which was not worth ten taels a mou before is now eagerly bought up by speculators at more than fifteen times its former value.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A correspondent writes from Canton under date the 20th January to the *N. C. Daily News*:—I was speaking to both the English and French Consuls to-day about the West River; they both say they know nothing definite about it, but that there is a probability of the question being settled about March.

Under the new service of the Messageries Maritimes there will be a direct steamer from Marseilles to the Far East only once a month, which will run alternately with a steamer from Bombay, connection with the latter being made at Colombo with the Australian steamer. The service will therefore be a fortnightly one, as at present, but with every alternate steamer transshipment will have to be made at Colombo.

The West River party returned to Canton on the 29th January, having accomplished the journey to Wuchowfu and back in a fortnight, which was a much shorter time than was anticipated, considering that they had no tow and had to pole and track up against the current. The main difficulties and delays were, as was to be anticipated, in the shallow channels of the delta between Canton and Samshui, the place where the North and West Rivers meet and the head of the delta they then form.

It is satisfactory to know that precautions are being taken at Canton to prevent a recurrence of the plague epidemic. There have recently been some sporadic cases, but the number of deaths reported is small. The San Sze have offered rewards for the picking up of dead rats that may be found in the streets, so that they may be buried at a distance from the city, and the Kwang Yan Hospital has issued a notice to the effect that plague patients will be received in that institution and that two male and one female doctor have been engaged to attend to the cases. The people are also recommended to keep their houses clean.

The annual report of the China Fire Insurance Co., Limited, shows that at the end of 1894 the balance at credit of working account was \$146,081, from which has to be deducted the dividend of \$3 per share paid in 1895, \$60,000; claims under 1894 policies paid in 1895, \$41,752; premia, etc., \$2,151; leaving a balance of \$39,178. The directors propose that this sum be apportioned as follows:—\$20,000 to shareholders as a final dividend for the year 1894 of \$1 per share, and \$19,178 as a bonus to contributors of premia. The accounts for 1895 show a satisfactory result so far, the balance of working account being \$235,666. The directors propose that the usual interim dividend of \$3 per share be paid.

The *Singapore Free Press* says:—We have heard that there is a rumour that Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, our late Governor, was offered, but declined to accept, the post of British Ambassador to China lately filled by Sir Nicholas O'Connor, and now bestowed upon Sir Claude MacDonald. As to what may be the foundation for the rumour we do not have any definite information, but it may at least be said that the Colonial Governor who did not hesitate to take in hand the abolition of the Secret Societies would not be likely to submit tamely to the procrastinating tortuosities of mandarin diplomacy, and would therefore have been well fitted for the post, bearing in mind also his acquaintance with the Chinese, their language and modes of thought.

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND SIAM.

A summary of the agreement between Great Britain and France in relation to Siam, which has been telegraphed out to Bangkok, places rather a different complexion on the affair from that given to it by Reuter's brief messages. The territory in dispute between Great Britain and France has been recognised as belonging to the latter, but the former has given no sanction to any dismemberment of Siam. It was stated by Reuter, it will be remembered, that France was to obtain the province of Battambang, but if so it will not be by virtue of any agreement with Great Britain. It appears to have been supposed in certain quarters in Bangkok that France and England had been carving up Siam and had agreed to a division of the spoils. France was to take the territory up to Khorat and England was to take the Siamese Malay States. This is now found to be altogether a mistake. England does not guarantee to Siam the continued possession of Battambang, neither does France guarantee that England shall not occupy the Siamese Malay States, but on the other hand neither power assents to any appropriation of Siamese territory by the other, while both severally agree to respect existing treaties. Central Siam, that is, the valley of the Menam and its tributaries, is guaranteed absolutely, the two Governments engaging that neither will, without consent of the other, under any pretext whatever, advance armed forces into that region, or acquire any exclusive privileges therein. The engagement does not extend to the territory to the east or south-west of the region indicated, but it is explained that in making these engagements in regard to the central portion of Siam the English Government must not be considered as implying any doubt or disregard of the title and rights of Siam to other portions of the kingdom, but to have been actuated by considerations of the commercial and industrial importance of the regions in question; and diplomatic notes have been exchanged giving assurances of the joint solicitude of the two Governments for the security and stability of the kingdom of Siam, and of their desire to maintain with it the most friendly relations and to respect existing conventions.

We cannot see what England has obtained in exchange for the surrender of her claims to the territory on the Upper Mekong, unless the compensation is to be looked for in some other quarter of the world where a similar dispute was pending. So far as Siam and the Mekong are concerned, the arrangement appears to be an entirely one-sided one in favour of France, and it cannot therefore be described as satisfactory, in the light of our present knowledge. It does not even secure the integrity of Siam's present boundaries. A wedge in the middle is guaranteed, but the territory to the east is to be considered in France's sphere of influence and that to the southwest in England's sphere. Both powers, while professing a present desire to respect existing conventions, may find it to their interest at some future time to advance their boundaries within their respective spheres. It is not at all unlikely that sometime the Siamese Malay States may have to be incorporated with the British Malay States, and if that came about France would be almost certain to take Battambang as a counterpoise, and is very likely to do so without waiting for any British advance. Diplomatic notes may be very useful things in their way, but they cannot be expected to stop the natural expansion of great powers on the borders of semi-civilized

states. If Siam wishes to hold her own she must advance with the times, develop her resources, and establish a just administration in all her provinces. She has already exhibited some inclination to adopt Western improvements, but has hardly done anything yet to amend her system of government. Her mandarins are as corrupt as those of China and are not inaptly termed "province eaters."

THE POSITION OF FOREIGNERS IN JAPAN AFTER TREATY REVISION.

It was generally anticipated by Europeans that after the victory achieved by the Japanese over China life in the Land of the Rising Sun would become almost unbearable on account of the inflation of Japanese pride that it was supposed would take place. The anticipations have been wholly falsified and foreigners have been subjected to no special annoyance whatever. This gives the *Japan Mail* occasion to ask whether other forecasts, still awaiting confirmation or contradiction, may not prove equally erroneous. "We refer above all," says our contemporary, "to the prediction that, so soon as the foreign residents pass under Japanese jurisdiction, life will become almost unbearable owing to official interference, police surveillance, and so forth. Are there, in the lives of the Japanese people themselves, any features of an unbearable nature? Do the police exercise any embarrassing surveillance over their own countrymen or countrywomen? Speaking from a tolerably long experience we answer both questions emphatically in the negative. Officials are not clothed with any irksome authority in Japan. The law does not allow a policeman to intrude upon the premises or pry into the affairs of a Japanese subject, except under circumstances recognised everywhere as justifying such action. Is it not probable that, just as success in war has made Japan more tolerant and liberal, so the satisfaction of recovering her sovereign rights will impel her, not to abuse the confidence thus placed in her, but to prove herself worthy of it?" The *Japan Gazette* traverses the arguments of its contemporary. Frankly speaking, it says, "there is no reason to believe that the Japanese have much cause for complaint or that they find their laws irksome. But is this any argument? A slave is thankful for a small measure of liberty which to a free man would be unbearable. . . . The question of importance, then, is not are the Japanese contented, but will the foreigners find the new fetters chafe?" To this the *Gazette* gives an emphatic answer in the affirmative. In the first place it refers to the laws against gambling, which might interfere with whist parties. To that the answer might be made that if playing whist for stakes were prohibited it would hardly rank as a first-class international question, and, further, that it is not likely the police will be employed regularly searching the houses of foreigners in the evenings to find out whether it is played or not. The next point taken is the dispersion of political meetings held in private houses. That, we think, is hardly likely to constitute a grievance amongst foreigners, but even if it were felt as such, it must not be forgotten that there are various European countries where similar laws prevail and where the protection of exterritoriality has never been thought of. Our contemporary refers, too, to the prevalence of corruption in

judicial circles, but at the same time it admits that the responsible statesmen are honestly endeavouring to correct these faults. We may hope that these efforts will succeed in elevating the judiciary entirely above suspicion before the cessation of the exterritorial system, but even if some suspicion still remains Japan will be by no means unique in that respect. The last point taken refers to limitations on the freedom of the press:—"Then in the Treaty ports there is a considerable sum of money invested in newspapers. We have a case on record in which the editor of a paper was seized and imprisoned and the printing presses sealed for fourteen days, when it was found he had committed no offence? That would ruin any paper that depended on public support for its existence. We do not suppose that the foreign newspapers when they come under Japanese laws will express opinions on any topics. To avoid suspension they will be colourless, at least we presume the editors who then remain in Japan will prefer to be mere collators of news to spending the bulk of their time in prison. Yet occasions must occur when it will be necessary to point out abuses, and those in charge may then find themselves inside the walls of a Japanese prison. There is time to remedy some of these things, but they will not be remedied if people sit quietly down and assert that because the Japanese are contented therefore the foreigners will find the change pleasant. A great many people will hardly know the difference, numbers of foreigners will grin and bear it, but for some people residence in Japan will simply be an impossibility." It is probable that when foreigners pass under Japanese laws the editors of the English newspapers in Japan will find it necessary to moderate their critical tone towards the Government of the country. That this restraint will prove irksome there can be no doubt, but here again it must be remembered that similar restraint has to be exercised in almost every foreign country. The number of English papers published on the continent of Europe can be counted almost on one hand and those that do exist indulge very sparingly in comment on the domestic politics of the country in which they are published. The change implied by the transfer from Consular to Japanese jurisdiction cannot but be unpleasant to the foreigners resident in Japan, but after the change is effected they will find themselves still as well off, as regards personal liberty, as if they had selected as their place of residence certain other countries that could be named. In Russia, for instance, the restrictions on foreign newspapers, if there are any published there, are probably greater than they will be in Japan, while as to the general administration of justice in Japan, more confidence may be felt than in, say, some of the South American republics. The surrender of exterritorial jurisdiction by the powers was undoubtedly a great concession to Japan, and the burden of that concession falls on the foreign residents in the country. That it is a burden there is no denying, and no sophistry can remove its unpleasantness. Hitherto the foreign residents have been subject only to the jurisdiction of their own authorities; under the new arrangement, when it takes effect, they will be subject to native jurisdiction just as if they were living in any other country where exterritoriality does not prevail. They will be no worse off than the foreign residents in most countries and will probably be much better off than they would be in some countries, but they will naturally not think that reflection

sufficient compensation for the existing privileges they will be called upon to surrender. From an international point of view the new arrangement may be considered on the whole a favourable one, but the foreign residents now in Japan cannot be expected to regard with approbation the surrender of the privileges they have hitherto enjoyed. They are in the position of a favoured class about to have their privileges withdrawn, and persons in that position always consider themselves the victims of a hardship if not of absolute injustice.

PROPOSED REGISTRATION OF NATIVE DOCTORS AND MIDWIVES.

The fearful infantile mortality prevailing in Hongkong has attracted the attention of the new Medical Officer of Health, who proposes as a remedy the registration of native doctors and midwives in order to preclude the practice of these professions by incompetent persons. The proposal, however, is attended with great practical difficulties. To begin with, every person would be admitted to the register, only the subsequent addition of other names being made dependent upon proof of education and training. The improvement in the status and character of the native practitioners would, therefore, only be gradual and it would be many years before it had any visible effect. When medical registration was introduced in England the great majority of practitioners were duly qualified and the public recognised the value of their diplomas, so that the law was aimed only at the occasional intrusion of quacks who preyed upon the credulity and folly of the ignorant. The law, moreover, had the support of public opinion. In Hongkong the conditions are entirely different. There are practically no qualified native medical practitioners and the proposed law would be entirely foreign to Chinese public opinion. Dr. CLARK says that "no doubt there are many honourable, intelligent, and conscientious Chinese doctors practising in Hongkong," which seems to us rather higher praise for the profession than it deserves, for with the exception of the graduates of the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese and possibly one or two men who have had experience in missionary hospitals there are no Chinese doctors who could pass an examination that would be recognised by a board of European doctors as a reasonable test of the most elementary knowledge of medical science. There are some more intelligent and better educated than others; they range from the common coolie quack to the men of education who have been specially trained, but the best are very indifferent. The doctors of the Tung Wah Hospital stand, we believe, at the head of their profession in Hongkong and what estimation they are held in by European doctors has recently been shown in the discussion on the management of that institution. So great is their ignorance that the Government has deemed it necessary in order to obtain a correct registration of the causes of deaths occurring in the hospital to appoint a doctor trained in European medicine to conduct the registration. Dr. CLARK proposes that after the first compilation of the register of native medical practitioners the addition of other names should be made dependent upon "such proof of education and training as the Registrar-General or the Sanitary Board, with the

"advice possibly of a consulting Medical Board, may think fit to require." But neither the Government nor a Medical Board could in any way recognise as doctors men who know nothing whatever of medical science. In short, before a native medical register can be established we must have men whose training entitles them to registration, and as yet only those who have studied under European doctors can be so classed. The first step, which we have repeatedly urged, should be to establish a register for these men and give them a recognised legal status. As their number increases and European medicine grows in repute amongst the native population it may become possible to legislate against quackery, but we have not arrived at that stage yet. To establish such a register as Dr. CLARK suggests would be to give legal recognition to charlatanism pure and simple. It is one thing to abstain from interference with native medical practitioners, as has hitherto been done; it would be quite another thing to legally recognise them and give them a certificate of the Government's approval. The regulation of midwives, however, would be a simpler matter than the regulation of the practice of medicine generally, and that branch of the subject might perhaps be dealt with at once. The very high mortality amongst newly born infants calls for the most serious attention and Dr. CLARK is to be congratulated on having brought the matter forward. It has been discussed before, but this is the first time, we believe, that any definite suggestion has been made with a view to bringing about an improvement.

THE OPENING OF THE WEST RIVER.

(3rd February.)

From the telegram we reproduce to-day from the *Banyoon Gazette* it would seem that rumours have been current at home that England had presented an ultimatum to China demanding the opening of the West River. The report is denied by the Foreign Office and it is stated that the representations made by the British Minister are absolutely of a friendly character. It is satisfactory to be assured that representations really have been made on the subject, and, although they have not been made in the form of an ultimatum, it is to be hoped they were of a sufficiently urgent character to secure compliance with them. It is singular that Reuter should not have wired to Hongkong either the original report or its correction. Rumours have for some time past been in circulation here as to the imminent opening of the river, but they came chiefly from Chinese sources and possessed no guarantee of authenticity. The Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, however, which may possibly have been in possession of more definite information than has yet been made public, has deemed the prospect of the opening of this new trade route sufficiently bright to justify it in ordering new steamers suitable for the traffic. The opening of the West River will add materially to the trade of Hongkong. It is possible, probable indeed, that it may lead to the formation of a settlement at Lappa or in the neighbourhood, which at first sight might be regarded as a rival to Hongkong, but in reality it would be a commercial dependency of this colony. Whether the new settlement will be Chinese, or Portuguese, or under the aegis of some other power remains to be seen.

THE GUNBOAT POLICY.

The action taken by the French Government in relation to the illegal interference with the trade of the steamers of the Compagnie Tonkinoise at Hoihow and Pakhoi affords a very good illustration of the utility of the gunboat policy. If the Company had been a British one it would probably have had to grin and bear its grievance as best it could, but being French a gunboat was promptly despatched to Pakhoi to support the Consul in his claim for redress. And redress was promptly obtained in so far as regards the cessation of the opposition, though the claim for damages has been left over for settlement at Peking. Our French friends are at present bent on an active policy with regard to China and are not likely to let any opportunity slip of giving effect to it. Had Mr. JOHN ANDREW been a French subject very possibly a French gunboat would have been sent up to Wuchowfu to demand the restoration and free sale of his cargo, and, provided the Consul were satisfied there had been no irregularity in Mr. ANDREW's proceedings, such action would have been very proper and salutary. We have had sufficient experience of the futility of sending every small matter up to Peking for settlement, a course which encourages the local authorities to indulge further in their high-handed proceedings, for they know, or have known under recent régimes, that when matters were once sent up to the capital there was a very good chance of no more being heard of them. Some of the Foreign Ministers have recently shaken this idea somewhat, and we look forward to a more lively protection of British interests when Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD arrives than was accorded them when Sir JOHN WALSHAM and Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR occupied the legation at Peking. But whatever the character of the Minister at Peking, the best way of disposing of small disputes is to insist on a prompt settlement on the spot, as in the case of the interference at Pakhoi and Hoihow with the steamers of the Compagnie Tonkinoise.

COLLAPSE OF THE CHINESE RE- FORM ASSOCIATION.

A great deal has recently been made in the Shanghai papers, especially the *N. C. Daily News*, of the Chinese Reform Association. The Association was formed at Peking and was said to have been joined by about fifty Hanlins, or about one eighth of the total number of scholars bearing that degree, the highest in China. A branch was afterwards formed at Shanghai and a newspaper established to serve as its organ. The object of the Association was "to make China powerful," which apparently was to be accomplished by the adoption of European ideas. The journal of the Shanghai branch had a preface by CHANG CHIH-TUNG, who had applied five thousand taels of the funds at his disposal to aid the objects of the Association. The Viceroy, however, soon found or made an occasion for stopping the journal. "The Western men name their years from the birth of JESUS. The new Reform Association dates its years from the death of CONFUCIUS. This has not been done before, but patriotically the members struggle to defend the greatness of their race by exalting their greatest sage to this position." The Chinese method of numbering the years is by the reigns of the respective Emperors, and CHANG CHIH-TUNG considers the change made by the Reform Association to be

unwarranted; he has accordingly ordered the suspension of the journal. At the same time it is reported from Peking that the Emperor has decreed the total dissolution of the Association. This news ought not to surprise any but the most sanguine, who alone could have entertained any expectation that such an exotic would have a much longer life than JONAH'S gourd. It seems to have originated at Peking with the Rev. TIMOTHY RICHARDS, and that it should have been launched at all is a proof of the influence possessed by that gentleman, but there is only too much evidence that there is no force of public opinion, even amongst the most educated classes in China, to sustain such a movement. In some quarters it was taken seriously, for which the readiness with which members were at first enrolled may have given some excuse, but the Association possessed no real root in the feelings of the people and the illusion has soon been dispelled. The Hanlins are not a progressive body and we fear are not likely to become so for many a long year. The Rev. TIMOTHY RICHARDS' work may not be altogether thrown away, but any progressive movement in China will be a plant of slow growth.

GERMANY AND THE TRANSVAAL.

(30th January.)

The Reuter telegram published to-day, stating that the German press continues to publish violent attacks against England and that several papers refer to the Emperor's action re the Transvaal as a splendid triumph over Great Britain is somewhat puzzling. What has transpired to constitute a splendid triumph? Nothing, so far as Reuter has informed us, and nothing, we hope, in fact. The German papers must, however, have had something to give a show of colour to their claim of a splendid triumph, but of what that something is Reuter has left us in ignorance. When the details are received it will probably be found that it is something altogether insignificant and that the splendid triumph is a mere figment of the imagination. It is true that in a telegram to a Batavia newspaper the statement is made that a secret treaty has existed between the Emperor WILLIAM and the Transvaal Government since 1885, but there is no splendid triumph in that. If the Emperor made any such treaty as alleged it would be a very despicable action, and so far from bringing any advantage either to Germany or the Transvaal would be likely to have quite the opposite effect. The agreement between England and the Transvaal, while giving the latter internal autonomy, precludes all secret alliances with foreign powers, and if such an alliance has been entered into it would afford England valid cause for setting the agreement aside and resuming control of the territory now ruled, or misruled, by the Boers.

Since the first news of Dr. JAMESON'S ill-advised and unfortunate expedition started us in the Far East further information has been received which, while it cannot excuse or condone JAMESON'S action, shows that the uitlanders have genuine grievances and that the situation had become unbearable. This has been practically admitted by President KRUGER, who has declared himself willing to grant the sufferers political privileges. It is unfortunate he did not make the declaration earlier, but now that he is in the mind to do justice it is permissible to hope, with his diplomatic agent in Europe "that the question "of the foreigners in the Transvaal will "be settled in a peaceable manner without

"any outside interference." The British Government has no wish to interfere, and would only do so in the last resort, but if any secret treaties with other powers are discovered England would have no option but to assert her rights and resume control of the Transvaal. The attitude assumed by the German press in the matter is altogether incomprehensible, and we can only hope that it is mere vapouring and does not really represent the views of the German nation. England and Germany have never yet fought against each other and Germany has certainly no cause to pick a quarrel now.

REPORTED GERMAN OCCUPATION OF QUEMOY.

Renewed rumours of a German occupation of Quemoy having been in circulation, we telegraphed to Amoy for information on the subject. The reply is as follows:—

"Amoy, 30th January, 3.58 p.m.

"It is rumoured that the *Illis* is surveying at Quemoy. Nothing authentic is known."

THE OPENING OF THE WEST RIVER.

The following telegram appears in the *Rangoon Gazette*:—

LONDON, 19th January.

The report current in London that a British ultimatum has been presented at Peking demanding the opening of the West River is positively denied by the Foreign Office. Nothing in the nature of an ultimatum has been presented, the representations made by the British Minister regarding the opening of ports on the West River being absolutely of a friendly character.

CAPTAIN BALLENTYNE'S CASE AT SAIGON.

We learn that Captain Ballentyne, of the steamer *Flintshire*, who was sentenced to a term of imprisonment at Saigon on a charge of assisting two French soldiers to desert, has been acquitted by the Court of Appeal. The result could not have been otherwise, but shipmasters will no doubt be careful in future not to take on board European passengers at Saigon who are not duly provided with tickets.

SUPREME COURT.

30th January.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HON. W. M. GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE.)

RE WONG LI SAM, EX PARTE FUNG SHING TAK TING.

This was an application to annul a receiving order which was made on 28th November, 1895, in this suit.

Mr. Gedge appeared for the petitioning creditor in support of the application and stated that all the creditors were in favour of adopting a scheme of an arrangement and annulling the receiving order.

Mr. Seth (Official Receiver) stated that since the affidavit had been filed in support of the application another creditor had proved, so that at present it could not be said the creditors were unanimous.

The Acting Chief Justice said that having regard to the English decisions, such as *In re Flatow*, 2 Queen's Bench Division (A.D. 1893), p. 219, and *In re Wester*, 22 Queen's Bench Division, p. 632, it was clear that in certain cases the Court had power to annul a receiving order, just as it might annul an order of adjudication, and that the principles which regulated the latter case, which alone was provided for expressly by the Ordinance, guided also the Court in dealing with the annulment of a receiving order. In

this case, however, the creditors, having had a first meeting, adjourned that meeting to consider whether they would accept a scheme of arrangement. Now to make that scheme or composition binding a "special" resolution is required and the regular procedure is laid down in the Ordinance. If that procedure is complied with and the scheme accepted by "special" resolution and approved by the Court, then, by section 22 of the Ordinance 20 of 1891 the Court might even after adjudication annul that adjudication, and therefore it might annul the receiving order. It would be dangerous, however, to depart from the procedure laid down by the Ordinance as regards approval of a scheme of arrangement, and although no doubt the application is made with a view to save expense, it might, if granted, work injustice to creditors who were no parties to it. The debtor's own statement disclosed debts over \$7,000 and the amount of debts proved by creditors who were in favour of the scheme would seem to be under \$4,500. I, therefore, decline to grant the application. There should be a further meeting of creditors and the procedure by special resolution should be adopted before the petitioning creditor would be in a position to apply to the Court to approve the scheme, the nature of which was not yet before the Court, and to rescind the receiving order. I may add that Lord Justice Fry in an application of this kind in the case I have quoted of *In re Wester*, said at p. 641 of 22 Queen's Bench Division:—"It is an idle notion that the Court is bound by the consent of the creditors. The Court has far larger and more important duties to perform than merely to consider whether the creditors have consented to the rescinding of the order. We are bound to take a wider view. We are bound not only to regard the interests of the creditors themselves, who are sometimes careless of their best interests, but we have a duty with regard to the commercial morality of the country." This being so, it would at least be well for the Court to be informed as to the scope and character of the scheme of arrangement proposed if further application is made in this matter.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 30th Jan. at the offices. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided, and there were also present Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Dr. Atkinson (Acting Colonial Surgeon), Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

NEW BY-LAW.

A new by-law made under Ordinance 17 of 1887 was ordered to be sent to the Colonial Secretary with the request that his Excellency the Governor be asked to confirm it.

AWNINGS AND SUNSHADES.

The following letter was read from the Colonial Secretary:—"17th January, 1896. Sir, —In continuation of my letter No. 42 of the 9th inst. I am directed to transmit for the information of the Board the enclosed copy of a minute by the Assistant Registrar-General on the subject of the removal of awnings and sunshades.—I am, &c., J. H. Stewart Lockhart."

The following is a copy of the enclosed minute:—"Hon. Colonial Secretary. Reply in Chinese (approved by you) sent to Mr. Chan Shi-ki on the 11th inst. and two notices posted. With reference to the statement that no request was made for the removal of these sunshades, I have the honour to draw your attention to the fact that the Chinese on all the notices signed by Mr. Hore which I have seen runs as follows:—"Whereas the sunshade in front of your premises obstructs the street, you are requested to pull down and remove the said sunshade." In English the occupant is requested to abate a nuisance caused by an awning over the front of his premises and nothing is said as to what the exact nuisance is which the existence of the awning gives rise to. Those signed by Mr. Brett state in the Chinese as well as in the English that the sunshade is old and dirty and that the nuisance must be removed. All the same, those who presented

petitions said they were told to pull down their sunshades and twenty of them have done so, whilst of those on whom notices have been served by Mr. Hore only two have removed their sunshades. In the case of the notices issued by the latter the Chinese is certainly at fault, and it seems as if in the Saiyingpun district in which Mr. Brett's notices were served the interpretation was incorrect.—A. H. Brewin, Assistant Registrar-General.

The following minutes were attached:—

The President—The notices served by the Inspectors are in the form of a memo. calling attention to the nuisance. If the receivers of those do not understand they can make further enquiries, and if necessary the Secretary will eventually serve the notice on behalf of the Board in accordance with the law.

Mr. Ede—I think it is desirable that the nature of the nuisance be clearly defined in the Chinese version of notices, and sunshades not removed unless really affecting the healthiness of any premises.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that the memoranda left by the Inspectors of Nuisances simply called the attention of the owners to the condition of the awning or sunshade, and not with the intention of taking proceedings on the notices. If it was necessary to take proceedings the usual form of notice prescribed by Ordinance 24 of 1887 would be duly served. He did not propose to proceed further with the matter at present.

The Board concurred.

AN ALLEGED NUISANCE.

A letter was read calling the attention of the Board to the defective and insanitary condition caused by the manufacturing of Chinese sauces or soy on the ground of Inland Lot No. 690, which was said to be injurious to the health of those living near.

The Medical Officer of Health reported that no nuisance existed from the trade processes, and the minutes recommended that no action be taken by the Board.

The PRESIDENT moved that the writer of the letter be informed that the Board could see no reason for interfering. He also moved that the owners of the works be requested to abate a nuisance which was caused by a rubbish heap.

Carried.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 18th January the death rate was 24.7 per 1,000 per annum, as compared with 19.3 for the corresponding period of last year.

For the week ended 25th January the death rate was 27.8 per 1,000 per annum, as compared with 12.9 for the corresponding period of last year.

The Acting Colonial Surgeon attached the following minute:—

A marked increase compared with last year at this time. It would be interesting to have last year's return of the same date and compare the two.

The SECRETARY said he thought the population last year was over-estimated, because a very large number of people left the colony.

A POLLUTED WELL.

An application was received from the owners of a well at 14, Staunton Street, which had been ordered to be closed, asking the Board to review its decision.

The PRESIDENT said he regretted that members were troubled with these applications from owners of wells which the Board had had not the slightest doubt or hesitation in closing. But the letter had been sent for the consideration of the Board and he felt it his duty to circulate it to members. The Board always carefully considered each case in the first instance and in not one had the Board cancelled an order to close after reviewing an application. He therefore moved that the applicant be informed that the notice to close the well must be complied with. With the concurrence of the Board he did not propose to again circulate similar applications.

Carried.

THE REGISTRATION OF CHINESE DOCTORS AND MIDWIVES.

The following letter was read from the Medical Officer of Health:—

Sanitary Board Offices,

Hongkong, 24th Jan., 1894.

"Sir—I have the honour to report, for the information of the Board, that I have inquired into the reason for eight deaths being recorded as occurring from fever at the Asile de la Ste

Enfance during the week ending January 11th, and I find that no deaths were registered for this Institution for the week ending January 4th, and that the deaths registered for the week ending January 11th really occurred during the preceding fortnight. I have also in accordance with the wishes of the Board made some inquiries into the large number of deaths registered as occurring from tetanus at this Institution, and also as to its death-rate generally, and I find that during the year 1895 some 1,075 persons were admitted and that no less than 817 of these died during the year. The great majority of the admissions are infants and mostly females.

"It appears that children are frequently brought to this Institution within a few days of birth, and it is these newly born infants which mostly succumb to tetanus, while the deaths from fever (presumably malarial) occur chiefly among older children, who are taken there by the parents, usually in a dying condition, when they find that recovery is not possible. I have made a careful survey of the establishment and have little fault to find with its general sanitary conditions, but I have come to the conclusion, from my own observations, that the enormous number of deaths from convulsions is largely due to the barbarous treatment to which these newly born infants are subjected before admission.

"This treatment consists in the cauterization of portions of the face and body by ignorant midwives or by the so-called Chinese "doctors" and in many cases the administration of drastic medicines, while the small estimate of female life, which is a characteristic of the Chinese nation, has no doubt something to do with this terrible infant mortality. It is a significant fact, in this connection, that while the male births exceed the female in the proportion of 130 to 100, the male deaths of infants (under one year) amount to only 71 per cent. of the female infant deaths; in other words, the female infant death rate is practically double that of the male infant death rate (i.e., 100:54). Again, the deaths of infants under five years of age in the city of Victoria number no less than 26 per cent. of those living at this age-period, while the corresponding rate in London is about 8 per cent., and although great allowances must be made for the tropical climate of this city, yet I am convinced that there are other and remediable causes at work to which the attention of the Board must be directed without delay.

"I gather that this question has in past years attracted the attention of such eminent members of the medical profession as Dr. James Cantlie and others, but no remedy has, it appears, yet been tried. I therefore venture to propose that the Government should adopt some means to prevent the continued perpetration of such atrocities in a British colony, and as a first step towards the amelioration of the lot of these wretched infants I would suggest that all midwives should be licensed by the Government, and that any person acting in that capacity without a licence should be liable to penalty. No doubt the abolition of such barbarities is largely a question of education, and it is a matter of universal experience that one of the readiest ways of educating a class is to make them personally responsible to some higher authority. This will be effected by the system of licensing and registration, and if these midwives find that a high death rate among the infants under their charge, from such causes as I have enumerated, will imperil the renewal of their licences, or even result in prosecution for wilful injury, there is little doubt that we should soon see a sensible decrease in the mortality bill. I consider, moreover, that a register of Chinese doctors practising in this colony is urgently necessary, for at present any ignorant coolie can pose as a "Yee Shang" and can exercise his ingenuity in perpetrating barbarities upon the ignorant masses of the Chinese community (who are, to say the least, under British protection in the colony) without let or hindrance from anyone, and although this may be permissible in the case of adults, I cannot for one moment admit that we are justified in tolerating such cruelties when practised upon helpless infants, even under the sacred name of Eastern medicine.

"No doubt there are many honourable, intelligent, and conscientious Chinese doctors

practising in Hongkong, and it is to their interest, no less than to the interest of the community at large, that a check should at last be put upon these ignorant impostors, and that the practice of Chinese medicine should be carried out in accordance with the ordinary laws of humanity and under such restrictions as a humane Government might be reasonably expected to impose.

"I would beg therefore to commend this matter to the most earnest consideration of the Sanitary Board, and I hope that they will see fit to approach the Government with some definite recommendation for the relief of these suffering infants and for the reduction of the infant mortality of the colony.

"I have the honour to be, sir, &c.,

F. W. CLARK.

Medical Officer of Health.

The following minutes were appended:—

Mr. Ede—Although I doubt whether registration *per se* will have the effect which the M.O.H. anticipates, there is no doubt something should be done without delay.

The Acting Colonial Surgeon—I am strongly of opinion that Chinese "doctors" should be registered, but there are many difficulties in the way, *e.g.*, who is to define a Chinese doctor? We shall have hundreds if not thousands claiming to be so registered if they expect to benefit thereby. The Registrar-General will be able to advise the Board in this matter. I am not aware of the existence of "Chinese midwives," with the exception of the few who have been trained by the medical practitioners of the colony.

The President—Register certainly, but how are the difficulties indicated by the Acting Colonial Surgeon to be overcome?

The Medical Officer of Health—The initial difficulty in regard to the registration of Chinese "doctors" must be met in precisely the same way as the registration of doctors, and later of dentists, has been met in Great Britain, namely, to place upon the register, when first formed, the name and address of every person who can prove that he is practising medicine at the time of its compilation. The subsequent addition of other names thereto can then be made dependent upon such proof of education and training as the Registrar-General or the Sanitary Board, with the advice possibly of a consulting Medical Board, may think fit to require, and in this way a reliable register will ultimately be obtained. With reference to the question of the existence of Chinese midwives, I thought it was a well known fact that practically all Chinese women are, during their accouchements, under the care of a "Wan Po" or midwife, and that male doctors are rarely, if ever, in attendance.

The PRESIDENT—Under the circumstances I move that this report of the Medical Officer of Health, together with the minutes on the papers, be forwarded to the Colonial Secretary with the recommendation from the Board that the matter receive the careful consideration of the Government, as in the opinion of the Board it is a matter which requires urgent attention.

The ACTING COLONIAL SURGEON seconded.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until Thursday week.

THE RECENT RAINS AND THE WATER SUPPLY.

The rain which we have recently experienced in the colony will not make a vast difference in the amount of water stored in the reservoirs, but just now every inch is acceptable, and so it is satisfactory to learn from the Director of Public Works that an addition of six inches of water was reported on Monday morning from Tytam, while of course the depth at Pokfulam would be still further increased. During the next month or so the recent heavy showers, which are very unusual at this time of the year, will continue to have an effect—a slight one, it is true—on the reservoirs as the water percolates through the ground, but it will take many heavy storms to make a really appreciable increase in the amount of water stored and to justify the Water Authority in making an alteration in the existing hours for turning on the supply. It is very doubtful whether the rains will continue for long, and most probably we shall have to wait until after the genuine rainy season has set in before residents can have the benefit of a full service. During the past few months a very important work has been proceeded with

at Tytam, whereby a material advantage in the means for conveying the water into the reservoir will be gained. In former times the west side of the Tytam valley was not included in the gathering ground, and the water on that side was lost. But now, by means of a channel way, which is rapidly approaching completion, the water, instead of running to waste, will be diverted into the Tytam reservoir. The channel way commences on the west side of the Tytam valley, contours the hillside, and passes over the gap above Saiwan, thereby intercepting an additional catchment area of about 220 acres. The work will be finished in a few weeks and will prove most serviceable, particularly in the dry weather when every drop of water from the streams is of value. During the last few days water has been carried down the new channel and the results have amply demonstrated the wisdom of its construction.

BOYCOTTING A FRENCH STEAMSHIP LINE.

CLAIM AGAINST THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

From the *Courrier d'Haiphong* we learn that the French gunboat *Alouette* arrived at Haiphong on the 23rd January from Pakhoi, where she had gone to support by her presence a claim preferred by the French Consul against the Chinese authorities arising out of difficulties in connection with the Compagnie Tonkinoise de Navigation. It appears that three or four months ago the Chinese at Hoihow and Pakhoi combined to oppose this Company. The means employed to effect this were improper and the French Minister at Peking made a strong protest to the Imperial Government. At Pakhoi a premium was offered to shippers to induce them to ship only by the German vessels chartered by Chinese, to the systematic exclusion of Messrs. Marty and d'Abbadie's vessels, which for two months were unable to obtain any cargo. Coolies engaged in connection with the latter were openly threatened, the authorities doing nothing for their protection, and at Hoihow the agent of the Company was molested and grossly insulted, a boycott being also threatened against any one shipping by the Company's steamers. After an exchange of sharp diplomatic notes the Chinese Government ordered an inquiry. Order was very soon re-established at Hoihow and the Prefect of Lienchowfu was sent to Pakhoi by the Viceroy of Canton to investigate the claims of the Compagnie Tonkinoise. M. Marty also went to Pakhoi to lay before the Consul, M. Gauthier, and the Chinese delegate his complaints and claims. On the question of fact an understanding was easily arrived at, especially when the *Alouette* made her appearance. The opposition syndicate was invited to cease its improper methods and even to dissolve. And, in fact, the steamer *Actif*, of the Compagnie Tonkinoise, and the Syndicate's steamer *Triumph* being in the harbour at the same time as the gunboat, the first named had her holds filled while the second had to leave empty. It remains to be seen, continues our contemporary, whether the good disposition of the Chinese will continue. In any case M. Gauthier, always watchful and always solicitous for French interests, will know, if it becomes necessary, how to recall the Chinese to their promises and engagements. On the question of damages no understanding could be arrived at. Messrs. Marty and d'Abbadie claim 100,000 taels for the loss sustained by their steamers by the operations of the Chinese syndicate. After three days' discussion the Viceroy's delegate concluded by saying that the question did not concern the Government, that it must be settled by the two rival companies, and, in a word, that it was an affair between the French and Germans, because the Chinese syndicate, seeing they were compromised, had consigned their vessels to a German firm. The *Courrier* stigmatises this as a subterfuge that can deceive no one, and says the Consul declared his intention to communicate by telegraph with the French Minister at Peking and leave the question with him for settlement. It is probable that the Compagnie Tonkinoise will not be further interfered with at Hoihow and

Pakhoi, but our contemporary opines that as regards the indemnity a stronger demonstration than that made by the *Alouette* may be necessary. The hope is expressed that M. Gerard, the Minister, will not yield to any specious arguments, the case being one which does not admit of doubt. The Chinese authorities are responsible for the loss sustained, because they took no steps to stop the illegal measures of the Syndicate. The Viceroy of Canton may make the Syndicate in question pay, but, our contemporary concludes by saying, the intervention of the Germans in a matter that does not concern them is inadmissible.

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LIMITED AND REDUCED.

The fifty-ninth ordinary half-yearly meeting of the Shareholders of the above Company was held at the Commercial Buildings, Queen's Road Central, on the 1st Jan., at noon. Hon. E. R. Behlbas presided, and there were also present Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Messrs. F. A. Gomes, J. Kramer, N. A. Siebs (Directors), T. Arnold (Secretary), E. J. Moses, C. S. Sharp, A. Tillett, A. A. Cruz, F. E. C. George, Paul Jordan, G. Fenwick, R. Michael, G. C. Cox, G. H. Potts, C. Rustonjee, C. H. Thompson, P. Sachse, Wong Ping Lum, Woo Hon, Chun Choi, and Chau U Tai.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for the past week we will, with your concurrence, follow the usual course and take them as read. I do not think that there is much for me to comment upon beyond what is already mentioned in the report. At our last meeting I stated that an arrangement had been made with the various native-owned steamers plying on the river which, it was expected, would work beneficially for all concerned, and that prediction is verified by the satisfactory result of the six months' working which we are able to place before you to-day. As compared with the same half of 1894 our gross receipts are \$51,000 better, but, as stated in the report, increased running expenses have absorbed a portion of that sum, leaving us, however, with a net improvement amounting to the respectable sum of \$33,000. With a cheaper coal contract for 1896, an equally good, if not better, result may confidently be looked for in the current year. I do not think that there is anything which requires special mention with regard to the repairs account. The *Powan* has had an extensive overhaul, and the *Heungshan*, from some unexplainable cause, fouled very rapidly after her first docking and consequently had to be docked again before her usual time; hence the two dockings instead of one. In a business like ours unexpected expenses of this sort must occasionally crop up. Since the last meeting the value of our share investments has still further appreciated, and the difference has been passed to a special account, your directors deeming this a more prudent course to adopt than to take unrealised profits into the profit and loss account. Our mortgages, I am glad to say, continue to be good security for the sums loaned. These, as stated in the accounts, amount to \$858,475, while the value of the various properties as certified by our surveyors on the 31st December was \$1,205,300. The foreclosed properties, too, which belong to the Company are also valued at a higher figure than that at which they stand in our books, so I think on the whole we may regard our investments as perfectly sound. The large sum on fixed deposit with the bank has been kept in this form of investment in view of the approaching refund of a portion of the capital, which our solicitors advise us may probably be made about the end of February. I think I mentioned at our last meeting that it was the intention of your Board to write down the book value of the steamers, and I am glad to say that we can make a beginning in that direction by writing off 5 per cent. and still recommend a slight increase of dividend to shareholders. The opening of the West River is still being much talked about, and I would mention that a short time ago your Directors

detailed Captain Clarke, of the steamer *Heungshan*, to make a journey to Wuchowfu, as they consider that the information he may gather and the experience he may gain will prove useful at some future time. We have also ordered two small steamers to begin the trade with, should the river be opened to foreign steam traffic. The construction of these boats will, however, be of such a nature that they can, if necessary, be usefully employed in other directions. Before concluding, it is only proper that I should express the sincere regret felt by the Directors for the loss by death of Mr. Poon Pong, who had occupied a seat at this Board for several years and had been of great service to the Company in a variety of ways, notably in bringing about the arrangements under which we are now running with the Chinese-owned steamers. With these few remarks, gentlemen, unless further information be required, I would propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Captain TILLET—I have very much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. FENWICK—Before passing the accounts, Mr. Chairman, I should like to mention that according to the newspapers the *Winglong* is laid up, and will be leaving here. There is a report amongst the Chinese that the Company is paying to the owners of that steamer \$800 a month. I should like to know whether there is any truth in that report.

The CHAIRMAN—The Company is not paying a single cash.

Mr. FENWICK—I am very glad to hear it. I thought it only right to put that question to the meeting. The report emanated from the Chinese, and—

The CHAIRMAN—No arrangements whatever have been made.

Mr. FENWICK—Thank you.

The resolution was carried.

Mr. GEORGE proposed and Mr. SHARP seconded the re-election of the retiring auditors, Messrs. A. O'D Gourdin and F. Henderson.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen, and I thank you for your attendance.

Captain TILLET—Before separating I think the shareholders will agree with me that we should express our thanks both to the Board of Directors and staff both ashore and afloat for having been able to place such a satisfactory report. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN—I have to thank you, Mr. Tillett, and the gentlemen present, for the vote of thanks. We shall always be happy to promote the interests of the Company as far as lies in our power. The dividend warrants will be ready for distribution to-morrow at ten o'clock.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The following is the sixty-first report of the Court of Directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders to be held at the City Hall on Saturday, the 15th February, at noon:

The Directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 31st December, 1895.

The net profits for that period, including \$312,217.02, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, amount to \$1,514,365.48.

The Directors recommend the transfer of \$250,000 from the profit and loss account to credit of reserve fund, which fund will then stand at \$5,750,000.

After making this transfer and deducting remuneration to Directors there remains for appropriation \$1,249,365.48, out of which the Directors recommend a dividend of one pound and five shillings per share, which will absorb \$444,444.44.

The difference in exchange between 4s. 6d., the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 2s. 1½d., the rate of the day, amounts to \$492,140.92.

The balance \$312,780.12 to be carried to new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. A. McConachie has been appointed Chairman for the year 1896, and Mr. St. C. Michaelsen Deputy Chairman.

Messrs. D. R. Sassoon, R. M. Gray, and St. C. Michaelson retire in rotation and being eligible for re-election offer themselves accordingly.

Mr. R. Shewan has been invited to join the Board, which appointment requires confirmation at this meeting.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson and Mr. S. G. Bird, who offer themselves for re-election.

J. KRAMER, Chairman.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1896.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Paid-up capital	\$10,000,000.00	
Reserve fund	5,500,000.00	
Marine insurance account	250,000.00	
Notes in circulation	9,326,092.07	
Current account:—		
Silver	\$42,465,660.28	
Gold	£3,369,300 = 31,556,126.24	
		74,021,786.52
Fixed deposits:—		
Silver	\$40,132,175.33	
Gold, £3,114,908.13 =	29,172,066.70	
		69,304,242.14
Bills payable (including drafts on London Bankers and short sight drawings on London office against bills receivable and bullion shipments)	17,231,920.47	
Profit and loss account	1,514,365.48	
		\$187,148,406.68

ASSETS.	\$	c.
Cash	\$30,825,540.75	
Bullion in hand and in transit	7,246,051.45	
Indian and Colonial Securities	3,313,506.64	
Investments, viz:—		
£250,000.00 2½ per cent.		
Consols lodged with the Bank of England as a special London reserve	\$1,900,000.00	
£517,050.00 Consols and other sterling securities	4,842,614.63	
		6,742,614.63
Bills discounted, loans and credits	53,855,449.90	
Bills receivable	84,073,291.22	
Bank premises	991,952.09	
Dead stock	100,000.00	
		\$187,148,406.68

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

Dr.	\$	c.
To amounts written off:—		
Remuneration to directors	15,000.00	
To dividend account:—		
£1 5 per sh. on 80,000 shares=£100,000 @ 4 6	444,444.44	
To dividend adjustment account:—		
Difference in exchange between 4 6, the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 2 1½, the rate of the day	492,140.92	
To transfer to reserve fund	250,000.00	
To balance carried forward to next half-year	312,780.12	
		\$1,514,365.48

Cr.	\$	c.
By balance of undivided profits, 30th June, 1895	\$ 312,217.02	
By amount of net profits for the six months ending 31st December, 1895, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, deducting all expenses and interest paid and due	1,202,148.46	
		1,514,365.48
		\$1,514,365.48

RESERVE FUND.	\$	c.
To balance	5,750,000.00	
		\$5,750,000.00
By balance, 30th June, 1895	\$5,500,000.00	
By transfer from profit and loss account	250,000.00	
		\$5,750,000.00

At Bangkok on the 10th January a Mr. de Souza, of the Japan-Siam Trading Co., shot Mr. Stephen Jansz, a reporter on the *Siam Free Press*, wounding him slightly in the leg. The occasion of the shooting was that Mr. de Souza suspected Mr. Jansz of being concerned in the writing of certain anonymous letters that had been circulated about him. Mr. de Souza reported to the Portuguese Consul what he had done and was thereupon put on heavy bail.

THE WEST POINT BUILDING CO., LIMITED.

The ordinary meeting of shareholders in the West Point Building Company, Limited, was held at the offices, Victoria Buildings, Queen's Road Central, on the 3rd February. Hon. C. P. Chater presided, and there were also present Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Messrs. M. D. Ezekiel (Directors), A. Shelton Hooper (Secretary), E. A. Hardoon, C. Inchbald, A. B. Johnson, P. Jordan, H. N. Mody, G. H. Potts, M. S. Silas Sassoon, C. S. Sharp, and J. Y. V. Vernon.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, with your permission we will take the report and accounts for the past year, which have been in your hands for some days, as read. You will observe that the profits shown for the period under review amount to \$8,944.78, as against \$9,612.07 for the previous year, and our gross returns show a decrease of \$4,721.83. This is accounted for by the fact that in the previous year the Government rented the whole of the vacant floors during the time of the plague for the sum of \$7,343.52, in addition to which several of the tenants vacated their premises in many instances on account of their business necessities. In the first month of 1895 the gross rental of the floors which were let amounted to about \$1,670 per month, in August to \$1,400, but since then, when a recovery set in, the number of floors let has risen considerably, and to-day the gross monthly rentals amount to \$1,899, leaving only 87 floors out of a total of 292 to be let, and these we have every hope of filling very shortly. But the large number of tenements similar to our own which are still to be let in the colony has necessitated our considerably reducing the rent of each floor to what we had anticipated, and to what we had commenced to let them for, but your directors deemed it advisable to get tenants at comparatively low rents rather than keep the property vacant. Turning to the expenses for working the Company, there is an increase of about \$400 for the amount paid for rates and a decrease in commission to agents of about \$200. For the coming year there will be a considerable increase under the head of fire insurance owing to the new increased tariff agreed upon by the Insurance Companies and the increase of the insurable value of the premises on account of extra cost of building materials, etc., but as against this I am pleased to inform you that the amount to be paid as interest on your mortgages will be very much lessened, as your directors have made arrangements for mortgaging the property at a lower rate of interest than formerly, which we have no doubt you will deem satisfactory. It does not occur to me to make any further remarks, but I shall be pleased to answer any questions any shareholder may desire to ask.

Mr. JOHNSON—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, it is gratifying to hear that the rentals have increased to \$1,899 for January, and I hope they will go on increasing at the same rate, if possible, and that the ground floors facing the sea will be tenanted. I think the policy of getting in tenants at a low rate so as to warm the places a good one. It is also gratifying to hear that the interest on the mortgages is going to be reduced from seven to six per cent., but I do not think you told us the date from which that decrease would take place.

The CHAIRMAN—As soon as the money is available from the mortgagees.

Mr. JOHNSON—From the mortgagees; that will be soon.

The CHAIRMAN—In the course of a month or six weeks.

Mr. JOHNSON—With these few remarks I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report.

Carried.

Mr. JORDAN proposed and Mr. SASSOON seconded the re-election of Hon. C. P. Chater and Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving as directors.

Carried.

Mr. MODY proposed the confirmation of the election of Mr. M. D. Ezekiel as a director.

Mr. SHARP seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, as there are only three directors of this Company and as the articles require three to form a quorum of

the Board, it is the desire of my colleagues and myself that the shareholders should appoint a fourth director, for, in case of the absence of one of us, no Board can be held. The articles preclude the Board from adding to its number and it can only appoint a shareholder to fill a casual vacancy; it is therefore necessary for the appointment to be made in a general meeting. I therefore propose that the number of the Board be increased from three to four, and I have much pleasure in proposing Mr. Inchbald as a director of this Company.

Mr. SHARP—I have very much pleasure in seconding that.

Carried.

Mr. VERNON proposed the re-election of Mr. Fullerton Henderson as auditor.

Mr. POTTS seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow morning, and those of you who apply here will have them delivered. I thank you for your attendance.

THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The seventh ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited, was held on the 30th Jan. at the offices, Victoria Buildings. Mr. Fullerton Henderson presided, and there were also present Messrs. J. H. Cox, J. Goosmann, E. Jones Hughes (Directors), A. Shelton Hooper (Secretary), F. E. C. Georg, J. R. Michael, M. S. Northcote, G. H. Potts, and A. G. Stokes.

The CHAIRMAN—The report and statement of accounts for 1895 which have been presented here have, I dare say, already had your consideration. It does not appear that any special remarks are required. The Kowloon houses have all been fully occupied throughout the year, and in every case an advance has to some extent been obtained in the results. The property is now in a very good state of repair, and it does not seem likely that, in the near future at least, any extraordinary expenditure will be required to maintain its present condition. In accordance with what seemed to be the desire of the bulk of the shareholders it has been determined to develop the property with further building, and though Hongkong at the moment seems to have reached one of its periodical desires to rush into bricks and mortar, I think the time is not unfavourable, but although of course building might be overdone, I think a reaction will set in a little afterwards. Besides, things in general in Kowloon seem to tend decidedly towards improvement all round. The roads are better; a good supply of water has been laid on; gas is obtainable; and what is still more important, Kowloon has, in the opinion of the general public, increased in favour as a place of residence. According to the plans before you it has been decided to build three houses at a cost of \$18,000. An alternative scheme was before the directors to build five smaller houses, but after consideration it was decided that the larger houses would give a better result, and I think the directors will find these expectations realised. In thinking of this extension it should be borne in mind that the land to the east of the Kowloon territory where we intend to build was not only non-productive, but it was also saddled with heavy taxes, and we must further remember in connection with this that this Society was started as a building company, and its bounden duty is to build. I do not think there is anything more I can add to these rather few remarks. If there are any questions you want me to answer before asking you to accept the report I shall be happy to do so. I may mention, gentlemen, that to provide funds for the cost of these buildings ten thousand debentures of the Wharf Company have been sold, and the balance will be sold as funds are required.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. GEORG seconded.

Carried.

Mr. MICHAEL proposed the re-election of Messrs. Cox and Hughes as directors.

Mr. G. H. POTTS seconded.

Carried.

Mr. STOKES proposed and Mr. POTTS seconded the re-election of Messrs. Arnold and Gaskell as auditors.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, there seems to be no further business before the meeting. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow morning. I thank you for your attendance.

THE WANCHAI WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the fifth ordinary annual meeting to be held at the offices of the General Managers on Monday, the 10th February:—

The General Managers beg to submit to the shareholders their report on the working of the Company and a statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1895.

The net profits of last year's working, including \$1,438.82 brought forward from last account, amount to \$11,706.05, out of which the General Managers, with the approval of the Consulting Committee, recommend to pay a dividend at the rate of eight per cent., absorbing \$7,800, to place \$7,500 to the credit of a reserve fund, and to carry forward the balance of \$1,406.05 to new profit and loss account.

The buildings of the Company are in a fair state of repair.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

In accordance with the articles of association, Mr. P. Sachse and Mr. H. Stollerfoht retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson, whose re-election is recommended.

MEYER & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 31st January, 1896.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

To capital account: 2,000 shares at \$100, of which \$37.50 are paid-up	\$ c.	97,500.00
To mortgages of	\$140,000.00	
To mortgages of	20,000.00	
	160,000.00	
To sundry creditors	3,645.96	
To balance of profit and loss account	12,406.05	
	\$273,552.01	
By Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	\$ c.	10,929.55
By property account	260,000.00	
By sundry debtors' account	2,622.46	
	\$273,552.01	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

To Crown rent and taxes	\$ c.	3,570.48
To interest account	8,948.28	
To balance:—		
Consulting Committee	\$ 600.00	
Auditor's fee	100.00	
Net profit	11,706.05	
	\$24,924.81	

By balance from 1894	\$ 1,438.82	
By balance of working account	23,485.99	
	\$24,924.81	

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-seventh ordinary meeting to be held at the Company's offices on Wednesday, the 19th February:—

The Directors have the pleasure to present their annual report and statement of the Company's accounts made up to the 31st December last.

1894.—The balance at credit of working account, as per last report, was \$146,081.22. Deduct dividend of \$3 per share, paid in 1895 \$60,000.00. Deduct claims under 1894 policies paid in 1895 44,751.96. Deduct return premia, &c., &c. paid in 1895 2,151.00. 106,902.96.

Balance of profit \$39,178.26

The Directors propose that this sum be apportioned as follows:—\$20,000 to shareholders as a final dividend for the year 1894 of \$1 per share, and \$19,178.26 as a bonus to contributors of premia.

1895.—The accounts for this year show a satisfactory result so far, the balance of working account being \$235,666.14. The shareholders have cause to be congratulated on the moderate losses incurred to date, and the Directors propose that the usual interim dividend of \$3 per share be paid.

DIRECTORS.

During the year Mr. A. G. Wood resigned his seat at the Board owing to his protracted absence from the colony.

Messrs. Michaelson and Siels retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

In consequence of the lamented decease of Mr. R. Lyall the Directors have appointed Mr. W. Hutton to act with Mr. J. H. Cox in auditing the accounts now presented. These gentlemen offer themselves for re-election.

A. McCONACHIE, Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Capital account	400,000.00	
Reserve fund	875,000.00	
Accounts payable:—		
Final dividend for 1894	\$20,000.00	
Bonus for 1894 and sundries	27,474.58	
	47,474.58	
Working account, 1895:—		
Balance at credit	235,666.14	
	\$1,558,140.72	
ASSETS.	\$	c.
Cash at Bankers	66,127.17	
Fixed deposits at Banks:—		
H'kong & Shanghai Bank'g Corp.	\$200,000.00	
Chartered Bank of I. A., & C.	120,000.00	
Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.	40,000.00	
	460,000.00	
Investments:—		
Chinese Imp. Govt. E. bonds	\$106,042.65	
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures	100,000.00	
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited, debentures	49,877.40	
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., debentures	41,617.07	
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Limited, debentures	8,472.22	
	306,009.34	
Loans on mortgage:—		
On properties in Hongkong	662,300.00	
Inland Lot No. 685:—		
Assigned by mortgagor	20,000.00	
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited, Four shares	522.00	
Furniture account:—		
Office furniture, &c.	670.00	
Accounts receivable:—		
Premia due from agencies, interest due on deposits and investments, &c.	52,532.21	
	\$1,558,140.72	

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

Dr.	\$	c.
To charges account:—		
Rent, salaries, legal and surveyors' fees, taxes, stamps, stationery, &c.	\$28,429.31	
Directors' and auditors' fees	7,400.00	
	35,829.31	
To commission account:—		
Agents' commissions	18,565.25	
To fire brigades account:—		
Contributions at agencies, &c.	630.67	
To losses account, 1895:—		
Claims accruing to this year paid	44,877.30	
To amount written off:—		
Furniture account	78.46	
To balance	235,666.14	
	\$335,647.13	

Cr.	\$	c.
By premium account:—		
Net amount of premia collected	\$259,604.18	
Less re-insurance	11,593.16	
	248,011.02	
By interest account:—		
Amount at credit, including interest due on deposits and investments, &c.	87,418.04	
By transfer fee account:—		
Amount at credit	218.07	
	\$335,647.13	

A dance given by the ladies of Shameen to the Shameen community took place on Thursday night at the Assembly Rooms. Great taste and discernment were shown in the decoration of the rooms and the arrangements for the comfort of their guests by the charming hostesses, and all present enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following report for December from the manager at the mines:—

August Shaft, 200 ft. level.—This point has again received a good deal of attention and a fair amount of work got through.

So far the quality of the ore has not improved as I had hoped, nor does the reef show that defined appearance I would like to see. This may be only temporary, however. The north drive on the course of Gillies' reef is still in broken reef matter and of no real value. But as already advised in my weekly letters, we are not yet sufficiently far north to catch the chutes of ore worked in the Mill Gully tunnel.

The drive referred to in my last report which we were then preparing for has been commenced and 16 ft. 6 in. driven. Already we have crossed a course of ore about 5 ft. wide, which although rather poor is fit for the Mill. This is not the chute we are driving for, however.

Intermediate Level.—We continue to draw the bulk of the ore milled from the various points at work here and shall do so for some time yet, as the reef is very wide in places.

The drive I spoke about in my last report as having been commenced to go out under the western chute of ore has connected with our old workings and is now ready for use in handling the ore got there. As anticipated, Phillips' Leader was crossed and I am pleased to say it shows fairly good ore. We shall commence to open out on this in the course of a few days.

100ft. Level.—The only work done here during the month has been in connection with the stoping going on below this level and consists chiefly of making the necessary preparations for filling the stopes coming up from the Intermediate.

New Leader.—The many points at work here have yielded their usual quantity of ore, and so far as can be seen shows no sign of falling off for some months yet.

Drivage.—The total drivage is 475' 6" Ore mined 1,000 tons made up as follows—August Shaft 762 " New Leader 238 "

Crushing.—This was carried on during 27 days, crushing 1,000 tons, yielding 431 ozs. 5 dwts.

General.—The usual attention has been given to the many requirements coming under this head. New roads into the jungle to reach our firewood reserves have been made and all surface work kept in good repair, a by no means light matter at this time of the year.

New houses for our fitters and menders have been built, and a contract let and work begun on a cattle shed at Lipis for housing the bullocks we are compelled to send there, through want of feeding ground on or near the mine.

A site is being prepared for a reverberatory furnace for calcining our heavier concentrates, and I am hoping to see it ready for use by the end of the coming month or very soon after. The second mill-mate has arrived and is now at his duties; the two European watchmen engaged should be here in the course of the coming week.

Gold Stealing.—We secured convictions in six of the seven cases sent down for trial, but I regret to say this has not had the effect of entirely suppressing the evil. We have had two other cases during the present month. I have written the Government in this connection, and have reason to think that more severe sentences will be inflicted in the future.

Labour.—This continues fairly plentiful of its kind, but I see we are losing many of our old Chinese hands.

Health.—This, owing no doubt to the continued wet weather, is not nearly so good as I could wish.

Rainfall.—During the month the total rainfall was three and three-eighths inches (3 3/8).

Not less than 80 varieties of water microbes—some of them probably new to science—have been found by M. N. van der Sleen during an investigation of Amsterdam's water supply covering more than four years. No cholera bacilli were at any time found.

RAUB.

The following is the manager's report for the five weeks ending January 7th, 1896:—

MINING.

Raub Hole, No. 2 Shaft.—The main drive going south at the 220 feet level is now in about 70 feet from the crosscut, in hard blasting black slate. The lode formation still remains from 2 to 3 inches wide and underlying slightly to the east. At 55 feet in I have started to rise to meet the winze from the 120 feet level. This is now up about 7 feet, and making a little water. We have to rise about 25 feet more before breaking through. I have also started to drive north at this level with the hope of cutting another shoot of ore. It is my intention to carry this drive back to the main engine shaft, a distance of 420 feet.

In the 120 feet level the winze going down to meet the south drive at the 220 feet level has been stopped, at it was found impossible to get deeper owing to the water. The total depth of the winze is 27 feet.

I have two parties of coolies working on the leader formation between the main engine and the No. 2 shafts. These leaders show some very good gold, but are small. As this is new ground and some distance from any other workings they may lead to something of importance. The stopes over the back of this level to the surface are worked out now, with the exception of some small cross leaders. These carry good gold, but turn out a very limited quantity of crushing stuff.

Bukit Koman.—The work of extending the main level, both north and south, is being steadily pushed on. The face of the south level is all in solid quartz, but what the width of the lode may be I cannot say. In the leading stope coming in over the back of this level it is fully 15 feet wide, and we have not yet got to the hanging wall. Fair gold can be seen in the ore in the face of the level and also in the leading stope. The ground in the face of the drive is exceedingly hard, and consequently slow progress is being made with the work of extending it. The contractors have driven 20 feet since starting, making the total distance in from the crosscut 170 feet. As this drive is going right under the mill, and the old native workings extend right across it, it is hard to say how far the lode may extend. Altogether things look very favourable in this direction.

In the drive going north it is altogether different. Here we are just coming under the swamp and as the old native workings extend right into it, it makes the ground very wet, and as it is soft and porous great care has to be used to prevent it from running. It is from this, the north end, that almost all the water of the mines is coming. I have not quite finished timbering, but as soon as I have done so I shall resume driving this end also. The lode in the face of the drive is about 6 ft. wide of solid quartz, but is rather poor at present.

Stopes.—There is no change to report in these. They are being steadily extended, both north and south, and the lode continues to show well all through them, particularly in the south end. More than the average quantity of ore has been sent to the mill from here during the past month.

It has been impossible to do anything towards sinking the main engine shaft during the month, as it takes the pump all it can do to keep the water from the level. As the weather has apparently now taken up a little, I hope soon to be able to resume sinking.

No. 2 South Air Shaft.—This is being sunk at a point 200 feet south of the main crosscut for the purpose of ventilation and sending down timber and mullock to the south stopes. I expect to sink 170 feet before breaking through to the level below, as the shaft is on the side of the hill. It is now down 76 feet, 70 feet of which is through old native workings. These workings extend right across the hill, and down the opposite side into the swamp about half a mile. Water appears to be the only thing that has stopped these ancient miners.

Western Lode.—There is nothing fresh to report from here. Stopping is proceeding steadily, and the usual quantity of ore is being sent to the mill from here. Very fair gold can be seen in breaking the ore. There is no change in the size or extent of the lode.

Bukit Malacca.—As the railway is now completed to here I intend to at once place the necessary pumping machinery in the shaft and resume sinking.

Battery.—Since the date of my last report this has been kept steadily at work night and day. On the 6th inst. a general clean up took place; for the three months 3,751 tons were crushed for a yield of 1,868 oz., 2 dwt., 12 gr. smelted gold, being a fraction under half an ounce per ton. The proportion of crushing stuff from the different sections of the mine was as follows:—Bukit Koman 2,951 tons; West lode 680 tons, and Raub Hole 130 tons. During the month of December and to January 4th the following number of trucks were delivered at the battery:—Bukit Koman 769, West lode 150, and Raub Hole 282 trucks, each truck containing 1½ tons of ore. December was the first month in which an accurate account of the number of trucks delivered could be kept, as it was the first month in which all the crushing stuff was delivered at the mill by the railway. After doing some necessary repairs crushing was resumed on the afternoon of the 7th inst., and has been carried on steadily since. I may here state that had it not been for the railway being at work the battery would have been hung up during the most part of the past three months, instead of which it has been kept steadily at work full time, and at a fraction of the cost as compared with bullock carts.

Railway.—This is now completed as far as it is intended to carry it at present, viz., Bukit Malacca. The total length of the line is 3 miles 10 chains. With the exception of making the trace the whole work has been done by the ordinary staff at the mine. The work of making the line was started in the early part of May, and would have been completed at least six weeks sooner but for delay in getting the material from Pekan. The original estimate of the cost of the work, including rolling stock, was \$32,792, the actual cost of completing the whole work has been \$33,822. This includes the ore shoots at Bukit Koman, Western lode, and Raub Hole not included in the original estimate, and cost of which was \$1,500, thus making total cost of railway less than estimated. Since starting to run on November 20th, not the slightest hitch or delay has occurred, although the work has been subjected to the most severe trials, owing to the heavy weather experienced during the N.E. monsoons. In conclusion, I have to congratulate the shareholders on the completion of another important work towards the development of their mines. The next important work I intend to ask the directors to sanction is the increase of the battery by 80 or 100 head of stamps and an electric installation to drive the same and light the works and mines.

WM. BIRBY,

Mining Manager.

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.

GYMNASTIC COMPETITIONS.

AMUSING SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR.

On the afternoon of the 30th Jan. the two days gymnastic meeting in connection with the Victoria Recreation Club was commenced in the gymnasium. The room, which had been specially decorated, was filled with interested spectators, among whom was His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson. The programme was a very lengthy one, so lengthy, in fact, that two of the items had to be put off until this afternoon, when a most enjoyable conclusion to the Championship competitions may be expected. The boxing was perhaps the most important feature of the display, the skill shown by all the competitors being of a very high order, and it naturally merited warm approval. In the remaining events Mr. H. Arthur certainly scored heavily, for both in vaulting the horse and the parallel bars his work was exceptionally neat and showed much careful training. In the high jump he cleared 5 ft. 5 in., but this was easily beaten by Mr. P. Hyndman, who gave a clever exhibition and cleared 5 ft. 9 in. in beautiful style. In the fencing competition Mr. Armstrong takes the championship prize, Mr.

Kennett having withdrawn from the final heat. It is to be hoped that ere long a more suitable building will be found for the Club. The gymnasium, for instance, is much too small, and given a room two or three times its size we venture to think that athletics in the colony would soon become one of the chief attractions. At present the members are considerably handicapped by want of space, whereas in a more commodious house they would not only be able to work with more freedom, but during the winter months gymnastic displays on a much larger scale could be given, and youngsters could be encouraged by taking part in the bewildering running maze. The following is a list of the officials:—

President: His Excellency Sir Wm Robinson, K.C.M.G.

Judges (Boxing)—Mr. A. Rodger, Mr. Ed. Robinson; Referee, Mr. C. H. Thompson.—(Fencing) Major E. Noel, R.B., Mr. W. H. Purcell; Referee, Staff Sergt. Cusack.—(Gymnastics) Mr. E. Bischoff, Mr. W. Armstrong Referee, Staff Sergt. J. Cusack.

Timekeeper, Mr. G. A. Caldwell.

M.C., Staff Sergt. J. Cusack.

HIGH JUMP.

P. Hyndman, 5ft. 9in. ... 1

H. Arthur, 5ft. 5in. ... 2

FENCING—First heat.

H. W. Kennett beat J Silva Netto.

Second heat.

W. Armstrong beat A. Pitacco. Kennett withdrew from the final, and Armstrong was awarded the championship.

BOXING—Featherweight (Novices), 9 stone, M. A. Figueiredo, who showed very promising form, beat P. Hyndman in the first heat.

VAULTING HORSE—The following members took part:—H. Arthur, H. E. Hayward, A. Pitacco, E. Joseph, A. A. Alves, M. A. Figueiredo.

BOXING—Catch Weight, (First heat). Over ten stone.

S. Bailey beat J. Strathie. This was a capital display, and the competitors had to have an extra round before the referee could give his decision.

PARALLEL BARS.—The following took part in this event:—H. Arthur, H. E. Hayward, A. Pitacco, E. Joseph, A. A. Alves, M. A. Figueiredo.

EXHIBITION BOXING.—Private Ralph, R.B., v. Private Owens, R.B. This contest was a very spirited one.

BOXING.—Catch Weight (Second heat). Over 10 stone.

G. Mollison beat J. C. Cameron. The three rounds were toughly fought. Each man sent in several well directed blows and showed considerable judgment in dodging, but Mollison was certainly the cleverer and his victory was loudly applauded.

The concluding events in the championship competitions by the members of the Victoria Recreation Club were decided on the afternoon of the 31st Jan. There was again a very large attendance, the platform which had been specially fitted up at one of the gymnasium being packed, while many gentlemen had to be content with watching the proceedings without the comfort of a seat. His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, was again present, and Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Colonial Secretary), Commodore Boyes, and Mr. T. Jackson were also amongst the spectators. The display was a highly creditable one, but a regrettable incident happened during the final round for the catch weight boxing championship. Mr. W. S. Bailey and Mr. G. Mollison were the competitors, and during the first two rounds the sparring was very interesting, and the dodging of both combatants particularly clever, although they were apt at times to be too affectionate. They closed on several occasions and the cry "break away" was repeatedly heard. Towards the end of the third round the timekeeper, Mr. H. J. Gedge, exclaimed "I say, men, box; don't wrestle." On hearing this remark Mr. Mollison refused to proceed further with the round. He was urged by Mr. Bailey to continue, but he would not, and having taken off his gloves he said to the timekeeper, "You come in the ring yourself, Mr. Gedge," and then left the room. Some of the spectators hissed, and as Mr. Bailey remained in the ring he was proclaimed the winner amidst a loud outburst of applause.

Mr. Bailey then told the audience that he was very sorry Mr. Mollison had left the ring, and he (Mr. Bailey) would be quite willing to box his opponent again. This was the concluding event of the evening, and his Excellency then delivered a humorous speech before distributing the prizes.

His EXCELLENCY said—Gentlemen, I have been asked by Mr. Saunders, our worthy secretary and, I may say, our factotum, to distribute the prizes this evening, and I need hardly say—it is not necessary for me to say that I accepted the invitation with a great deal of pleasure. I am President of this club, and I am proud of the position. (Applause). The Victoria Recreation Club contains the flower of the youth of the colony. (Applause). I have enjoyed the last two afternoons very much indeed, and so have we all in the dress circle—(laughter)—and I am quite sure all you gods in the gallery—(renewed laughter)—have enjoyed yourselves equally well, judging by the enthusiastic applause which you have given to the worthy competitors. I should like to make a few remarks about what happened yesterday. It is not given to every man to be able to jump over his own head—(laughter)—but there was a wonderful example yesterday within the limited area of this noble building. (Laughter). It will surprise a good many people to hear that Mr. Hyndman jumped over his own head. I believe Mr. Hyndman stands 5 feet 9½ inches; yesterday he cleared 5 ft. 9 in., and if he had been in the open he could, as was reported of him, have cleared 5 ft. 11 in. It is a great thing for a man to be able to jump over his fellow men. It would take two ordinary men to jump over my A.D.C. (Loud laughter). The second man in the high jump was Mr. Arthur, who has distinguished himself all through this meeting. (Applause). As far as my opinion goes Mr. Arthur was best in the vaulting horse, best at the parallel bars, and best at the horizontal bars, and the Victoria Recreation Club is to be congratulated upon having secured the services of such an excellent young man as one of the members. Mr. Arthur comes to us with a great reputation from Dulwich College. He has proved himself on the cricket field as a wicket keeper and here as the leading man in gymnastics. The second item was No. 6 instead of No. 2, and was the competition in the light weights between Mr. Kew and Mr. Klinek. It was a very spirited match, and although Mr. Klinek gave Mr. Kew several "clinkers" (laughter)—he was beaten. Towards the end of the contest Mr. Klinek saw several constellations—(laughter)—and of Kew it might be said as Stanley said of Richmond, "Courageous Richmond, well hast thou acquit thee." (Applause). And I am very sorry to say that Mr. Klinek left Staines behind him. (Laughter). The next item yesterday was the contest between the featherweights, Mr. A. Figueiredo and P. Hyndman, and then between Figueiredo and Silva Netto. Mr. Figueiredo is a very promising young boxer—(applause)—as is also Mr. Hyndman, although he had better "buck up." (Loud laughter). I am afraid Mr. Silva Netto also saw a few stars. (Laughter). In the catch weights we have had an amusing exhibition more amusing yesterday than it was this evening, because I think the P.W.D. was tackled this evening—Mr. Mollison is in the P.W.D., isn't he?—and he had to retire. I think Mr. Bailey deserves a considerable amount of credit. (Applause). Talk about snakes in the grass! They are nothing like Bailey. He is the most serpentine boxer I ever saw. A serpentine dancer is appearing at the City Hall next week and I hope you will go and see her, but I am quite sure she cannot come up to Mr. Bailey. (Laughter). Whilst on the subject of boxing let me express my regret that the P. R. has lost one of its most ornamental members. Mr. Gedge, a friend of mine and a fellow countyman of mine, has given up the P. R. and taken up the W. R., i.e., the Wedding Ring. (Laughter). Let us hope, as I am sure will be the case, that he will display in his domestic life the tender fierceness of the dove. (Laughter and applause). I wish him a happy marriage and the Crown Solicitorship in the future. The seventh contest was Mr. Armstrong against Mr. Pitacco. This was a very good fight and Armstrong proved invincible, and Mr. Kennett exercised

a wise discretion in retiring in favour of Mr. Armstrong. I think Mr. Kennett must have been reading "Twelfth Night," and studying the part of Sir Andrew Ague-Cheek, who said, "Had I thought he had been valiant and so cunning in fence, I'd have seen him damned ere I'd challenged him." (Roars of laughter). Gentlemen, I do not think I have anything more to say except to congratulate you most heartily upon the performance I have witnessed this evening and last night, and to express the hope that I may be here next year to distribute the prizes on a similar occasion. (Loud Applause).

His Excellency then distributed the prizes as follows.

Gymnastics.—First prize, H. Arthur; second prize, H. E. Hayward.

Boxing, Catch Weight, W. S. Bailey; Light weight, F. H. Kew; Feather weight, M. A. Figueiredo.

Fencing.—W. Armstrong. Cheers and the "tiger" for His Excellency the Governor, and cheers for Mr. Saunders, the Secretary, concluded the proceedings.

The following are the results:—

Boxing—Light weight, 10 stone.

F. H. Kew beat C. G. Klinek.

HORIZONTAL BAR.—The following competed.

H. Arthur, H. E. Hayward, A. Pitacco, E. Joseph, A. A. Alves, M. A. Figueiredo.

RINGS.—The competitors in the above also took part in this event.

EXHIBITION CLUB SWINGING.—The exhibition was given by Sergeant W. Smythe, of the Rifle Brigade, whose performance was exceptionally neat. He was loudly applauded and had to respond to an encore.

Boxing—Feather Weight, Final.

M. A. Figueiredo beat J. Silva Netto.

The three rounds were productive of some very interesting boxing. In the first round both men fought with considerable vigour, and in the second Figueiredo drew blood. His opponent came in for a lot of punishment, and before the third round was over he was quite beaten, but he stuck pluckily to the end, notwithstanding a sharp succession of nasty smacks from Figueiredo.

EXHIBITION BOXING—Light Weight.

Banfield, of the Royal Navy, and Private Simmons, of the Rifle Brigade, gave a clever exhibition and they well merited the loud applause bestowed upon them.

EXHIBITION BOXING—Middle Weight.—Corporal Gilbert, R.B., and Corporal Hale, R.B., gave a stylish display throughout the three rounds, and in the last one some warm work was put in.

Boxing—Catch Weight, Final. Mr. W. S. Bailey met Mr. Mollison, and as is explained in the introduction Mr. Bailey was declared the winner.

CRICKET.

THE OFFICERS R.N. v. THE OFFICERS R.B.

This match, played on the 30th Jan., resulted in a victory for the Navy on the first innings. Winning the toss and going in on a slow good wicket the sailors began well making over 100 runs for 4 wickets. Pead contributing a good 42 and Mercer 21. At 112 Eccles went on with lobs, his first ball getting Mercer's wicket. James went the same way. Shelford was next, and it may be remembered that his last attempt at playing a lob was to play back to a half volley, which resulted in his defeat first ball. On this occasion he had made up his mind that the lobs were to be treated in another manner. He came boldly in with his helm "well up" and his weather eye, as he thought, open. Seeing the "smack-you-out-of-the-colony" look in his eye the bowler determined to try a little artifice. He put his field out deep and bowled a short one. Down the pitch came "Tommy," crack!!! But no! he missed her, and there was one behind the wicket who did not miss him, and again the valiant "T. S." had to retire first ball to the lobs. He had his revenge, though, as the score will show. The Naval innings closed for 149, and the Rifle men had no easy task before them. Holland did all he knew, but the bowling of Elliott and of the aforesaid redoubtable "T. S." was too much for the remainder. When Paley came in things

were expected to improve, but although he got well set in two balls he failed to stop his third. The R.B. had to follow on and made 140 in an hour for the loss of 4 wickets. Eccles, smacking about in a rather wild style, made 95, which included four "sixers" out of the ground.

The following is the score and analysis:—

THE NAVY.

Lt. W. H. C. S. Thring, c Paley, b Knox	9
Surgeon Pead, b Knox	42
Lt. Comm. Grafton, b Knox	4
Capt. Mercer, st. Paley, b Eccles	21
Lt. T. A. Powlett, c and b Knox	12
H. M. Elliott, b Eccles	24
Lt. H. W. James, b Eccles	0
Lt. T. Shelford, st. Paley, b Eccles	0
G. R. Blount, b Alexander	16
D. C. Dalrymple, not out	7
H. C. Rawson, run out	9
Extras	5

Total 149

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	No. of Balls.	No. of Wide Balls.	Total Runs.	Maiden Overs.	No. of Wickets.	No. of Bowled.
Eccles	—	—	25	2	4	30
Percival	—	—	23	1	—	40
Baker Carr	—	—	17	—	—	20
Knox	—	—	—	—	3	83

OFFICERS R. B.

S. E. Holland, b Dalrymple	42					
C. Percival, b Shelford	0					
C. W. Knox, c Powlett, b Shelford	7	c and b Shelford	25			
Capt. Eccles, b Shelford	0	c Thring, b Shelford	95			
Capt. Baker Carr, b Elliott	5					
Capt. Ferguson, c Mercer, b Shelford	12	not out	7			
R. Alexander, b Elliott	1					
G. Paley, b Elliott	0	b Elliott	0			
D. Power, c Thring, b Elliott	0					
T. Close, b Elliott	1					
Major Hon. E. Noel, not out	0	b Elliott	4			
Extras	10	Extras	10			
Total	78	Total	141			

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The first of a series of three races for a prize presented by the Hon. H. E. Pollock was sailed on Sunday in very light winds. The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round the north fairway buoy and a mark boat off Lyeemoon (leaving both to starboard), finishing off the Pier, 12 miles. The race was a handicap for first and second class boats only and the following started at 11.15, crossing the line at considerable intervals:—

Boat	Owner	Handicap	Time of starting	H.	M.	S.
Meteor, Mr. Lammert, scratch			11	20	30	
Erica, Mr. A. Denison, 45 seconds			11	16	40	
Dart, Mr. A. H. Barlow, 2 minutes			11	25	00	
Ladybird, Mr. J. Hastings, 3			11	16	30	
Payne, Royal Engineers, 3			11	27	00	
Petrel, Mr. Morton Jones, 6			11	45	00	
She, Mr. C. H. Gale, 10			11	26	00	
Aileen, Lieut. Lee Dillon, 12			11	25	00	

Although the actual times of crossing the line vary considerably, most of the boats were within a few yards at gun fire, but owing to the lightness of the wind the short distance took some time to cover. Erica, starting near the north end of the line, had a better tide than the rest, which were assembled round about the mark boat at the south end, and with the help of a light south wind drifted into a nice northerly breeze, which carried her down to the north fairway buoy with a lead of about six minutes. Meteor and Ladybird got away from the others and arrived at the buoy second and third, with She fourth. Erica and Ladybird tacked well up to the north, Meteor keeping to the middle of the shipping. She following in a middle course. When off the godowns the wind turned to south and on cross tacking Meteor was found to have nearly caught up with Erica, but the latter was just able to place herself on Meteor's weather bow, a position she occupied as far as Kowloon Point, where another calm was met with, and here Ladybird closed up to within a few lengths of the leaders, with She not far away. After drifting along with the ebb tide up to near Blackhead's Point a light east wind came down, and Erica and Meteor were the first to catch it, which gave them a considerable lead from Ladybird.

and She. Erica again got on to Meteor's weather and kept there as far as Quarry Bay, leaving her further each tack, and rounded the Lyeemoon mark boat with a lead of over three minutes from Meteor, Ladybird being third some four minutes after, and She fourth, then Payne and Dart, with Aileen some twenty minutes after. In the run down Meteor nearly caught up with Erica, but the latter was able to get across the line first. Times at finish:—

	H.	M.	S.
Erica	3	11	40
Meteor	3	11	50
Ladybird	3	18	40
Payne	3	34	15
She	3	34	20
Aileen	3	54	30

Dart and Petrel both gave up and did not cross the line. The points gained towards the prize are:—

Erica	10
Meteor	4
Ladybird	1

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The competition for the Captain's Cup took place from 1st to 3rd February, and resulted in an easy victory for Mr. Grace:—

Mr. C. H. Grace	97	15	82
Mr. A. S. Anton	99	11	88
Mr. C. Palmer	99	11	88
Mr. H. W. Slade	106	18	88
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	102	10	92
Mr. J. Stewart	98	5	93

The Sweep was won by Mr. C. Palmer.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

RAUB.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—An individual signing himself "Moralist" has, I see, been writing to the *Straits Times* a lot of twaddle about Raub. To begin with, he states that the shares have at present a market value of about half-a-crown a piece. A reference to any share list will show that their present market value is \$4.00 per share, or say 8/8 sterling. He further goes on to state that he once held ten thousand shares, evidently, to put it mildly, a mistake on his part. He then says that his overdraft at the bank on their account was charged at the rate of 8 per cent. Banks are not in the habit of granting overdrafts for the purchase of mining stock much less of stock in an unproved mine. "Moralist" should have signed himself Bear, and a poor Bear at that.

Raub has, fortunately for its shareholders, got beyond the initial stage of an unproved mine and is now dividend paying and is likely in the near future to pay handsomely. It is not and cannot be a 10oz. or 20oz. to the ton concern, sending idiots crazy to obtain shares before the boom bursts, but it is and has been for years a steady producer of 4oz. to the ton quartz, with wide and extensive reefs of the same; and anyone who knows anything about gold mines is aware that this is what pays, if not quite so exciting as the wild-cat stock. It has further only arrived at the dividend paying stage after steadily fighting for some years against disasters which would have, voluntarily or involuntarily, wound up any mining concern without a good back-bone in the shape of good sound reefs with a steady outturn. The company was in the first place ridiculously over-capitalized; that has been rectified; then a flood came and swept the works clear and filled the shaft with debris, burying the pumps and bringing the work to a standstill for months; this recovered from, a native rebellion broke out in the State (Pahang) and the rebels destroyed all the new works, seized the machinery, and threw it in the river (parts getting lost, necessitating getting it renewed from Europe) and scattered the staff; thus another year was lost and work had to again be begun afresh. The mine having once more been put in order and work fairly started, the wet season set in and owing to the very bad state of

the roads work was again almost brought to a standstill by the loss of nearly all the draught oxen from the hard work they were subjected to to keep the small mill of ten head of stamps going; then the work had to be stopped to refit the mill and add another ten head of stamps. This only outlines some of the principal difficulties overcome. The railway now at work and the settled state of the country (now assured by the federation of the Straits Settlements and the extension of public works, mainly roads, and moral influence of a strong, well organized police force) will enable Raub to be tranquilly developed and the shareholders to reap the harvest of handsome and steady returns which they have patiently waited for, in spite of "Moralist's" flippant estimate of the value of Raub.

Raub last year, under difficulties and with only twenty head of stamps at work, produced 5,755 ozs. of gold valued at £21,871, or, at 2 2 to the dollar, over \$201,880.

In 1893 Raub paid a dividend of sixpence a share; in 1894 they wisely paid no dividend, but devoted the surplus cash to developing the mine. For 1895 it is reported that another sixpenny dividend will be paid; this will give 6 per cent. on present quotation value of shares (\$4.00). Next year with 100 head of stamps going we may hope to get a 30 per cent. dividend on each share at a value of \$4.00, the present quotation of the shares. Raub is not dependent on one reef, but has a number of reefs to work from, proved over a large area of country.

Punjom, the neighbouring mine, also produces 1 oz. to the ton quartz and this like Raub will prove richer as greater depth is worked.

Pahang goldfields have been fairly tested and proved.

RAUB SHAREHOLDER.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1896.

PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—It would be interesting to know how it is that any important news from the mine is always received here before it reaches the Company direct. The shares have in the last two days jumped from \$4.50 to \$6 and it is not probable that the only cause of this is that "the cyanide expert has arrived in Singapore" and that "the Manager hopes to be able to give a very good crushing this month," which is all the information that can be obtained at the office of the Company.

It has always been the fact that the news of a good crushing has been discounted several days before the result has been published here and it looks as if it will be so again. Can any of your readers throw any light on the subject?—Yours truly,

SHAREHOLDER.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1896.

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND SIAM.

The following official telegram has been received by Mr. de Bunsen, Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Bangkok:—

"The agreement between France and Great Britain, signed on the 15th January, was published in *The Gazette* on Tuesday. It is therein provided that the *thalweg* (centre) of the Mekong shall form the limit of the possessions of the two powers from the Nam Hnuk northwards to the Chinese frontier. The two Governments engage that neither will, without consent of the other, under any pretext, advance armed forces into the region comprised in the basins of the Petchaburi, Meklong, Menam, and Bangpakong rivers and their tributaries, together with the coast from Muong Bangtaphan to Muong Pase, the basins of rivers on which these two places are situated, and basins of other rivers having estuaries in that coast, including also territory north of the basin of the Menam and situated between the Anglo-Siamese frontier, the Mekong river, and the eastern watershed of the Me Ing. They further engage neither of them to acquire any exclusive privilege in this region, but these stipulations are not to derogate from the rights of France, under the treaty of 1893, in regard to the 25 kilometre zone and the navigation of the Mekong. There are

other stipulations respecting trade privileges in China, &c. The agreement is accompanied by an exchange of notes giving assurances of the joint solicitude of the two Governments for the security and stability of the kingdom of Siam, and of their desire to maintain with it the most friendly relations and to respect existing conventions.

"A dispatch to Lord Dufferin is also published, explaining that in making these engagements in regard to the central portion of Siam the English Government must not be considered as implying any doubt or disregard of the title and rights of Siam to other portions of the kingdom, but to have been actuated by considerations of the commercial and industrial importance of the regions in question."

Commenting on the above the *Siam Observer* says:—

Here it is seen that France does not get the Mekong provinces of Siam, but, on the other hand, binds herself to respect existing conventions—by which the whole boundary between Siam and French territory is plainly mapped out. As we have all through declared, England has no design whatever on the Malay States, and has consequently also readily bound herself to respect her treaties with Siam. We have here, then, a perfectly friendly settlement which guarantees the independence of Siam absolutely, and bears out the spirit of the words of the present French Government as to the abandonment of the policy of colonial expansion. But, inasmuch as border disputes are likely to arise, both countries have a right to march troops into the territory outside the Menam valley. The recent expedition into Kelantan is an apt example of this. The tendency of criminals to cross frontiers necessitates a provision such as would enable the offended country to pursue them. In the sparsely populated and less perfectly organised outskirts of a country it would often be more convenient to permit a neighbour to cross the boundary in such and similar circumstances than to raise a home force and despatch it to the frontier. So long as these perfectly amicable incursions of troops do not extend to the Menam valley they will not be resented by the contracting parties. But England definitely declares against any assumption that the Mekong provinces do not belong to Siam. The restriction as to the Menam valley is based purely on commercial considerations. Now the official telegram has been received no doubt all fears will be set at rest and our Siamese friends recognise how carefully England has safeguarded their interests, even while giving up, for the sake of peace, territory which was absolutely English, but which, in view of the abandonment of the Bangkok-Chiangmai-Sumao railway scheme, could be sacrificed with no serious loss to British interests in those regions.

COLLAPSE OF THE CHINESE REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Shanghai, 27th January.

It would appear by a telegram received here yesterday from the Reform Association at Nanking, of which the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung is President, that the editor (Mr. Kahng) of the Association's journal at this port, noticed in our editorial of the 24th instant, had taken too much on himself in inventing a new date for his paper, viz., dating from the year of the death of Confucius. This step has been sternly vetoed by the Viceroy Chan, who has shown his dissatisfaction by decreeing that the journal in question shall not be published until further notice. With reference to the new date the telegram states that it is "contrary to reason," and, with certain clauses of the articles of association published in the *Reform Journal*, "had not been sanctioned by the other members of the Association."

Shanghai, 28th January.

In reference to the paragraph in our yesterday's issue announcing the suspension by H.E. Chang Chih-tung of the organ of the Reform Association at Shanghai, a correspondent sends us a copy of a telegram received here on Wednesday last from Nanking, to the effect that the Peking reform movement has been suppressed by Imperial order. We very much fear that this suppression is a fact, and can only ask with our correspondent, "What next?"—*N. C. Daily News*.

ANTI-OPIMUM CRUSADE AT ICHANG.

According to native reports the officials at Ichang are following a course of action which would delight the heart of the anti-opium people. Some days ago the officials of that city made an extensive tour of its thoroughfares, forcibly closing up scores of opium shops, seizing the owners, and giving each of them 400 blows of the bamboo and half that complement to the smokers found on the premises. One hardened offender, who took his beating without saying anything, opened his shop again as soon as the officials turned their backs. He was arrested and put in the cangue for a month. It is by these sporadic outbursts of offended virtue that the officials of China, who are the most confirmed slaves of opium, exemplify their claims to the titles of the fathers and mothers of the people.—*China Gazette.*

THE RUSSIAN MINISTER INSULTED.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *Mercury*, writing on the 15th January, says:—

Information reached us last night that the Chinese residing in Peking and the suburbs are considerably excited over the construction of the Liu Kohcheao railway, and whilst Count Cassini with some friends were out riding, the party were stopped by an infuriated mob, who conceived the foreigners were the cause of the construction of the railway, which they think will injure instead of benefit the people, and stones were hurled at the Count and companions. The *Tingchais* who accompanied the party had all they could do to restrain the violence of the mob and to get the people to understand that the party had nothing to do with the railway staff, but belonged to the Russian legation.

On getting safely back to Legation Street, the Russian and French Ministers proceeded to the Tsungli Yamen and demanded that a proclamation be immediately issued to prevent further insults to foreigners and if not they, the Ministers, would speedily make other arrangements for their own protection. This request will no doubt prove to be effective and prevent any similar outrages.

THE SHANGHAI BRANCH OF THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Shanghai Branch of the China Association was held on the 27th January.

The Chairman in the course of his speech said The China Association was formed for the special purpose of protecting and promoting British interests in China, but our interests are so varied and so great and our intentions so liberal, that in protecting and promoting those interests would be protecting and promoting the interests of every nationality represented in Shanghai in one way or another. It is probably a fact that in some of the alterations and reforms we have asked for or suggested, we have touched upon matters of a diplomatic or international character. When such has been the case we have not in any way insisted upon such reforms and alterations, being content to leave such matters to be dealt with by the proper authorities in the hope that it was only necessary to direct their attention to them. In cases, however, which are not in any way of a diplomatic or international character, but in which we are deeply interested, and about which we think we know, we have considered it our duty to urge our views as strongly as possible on those whom we have addressed. So far, we have little, if any reason, that I know of, to be satisfied with the reception of those views. Should the incoming committee hold the same opinion they will find plenty to occupy them, and I hope that official indifference will not prevent them doing what they consider to be their duty. Referring for a moment to last year's report, I find that matters left over from previous years were postal anomalies and the unsatisfactory so-called settlement of the Sungpu massacre. Regarding the first matter, postal anomalies, I find this question was one of the first that engaged the attention of this Association

as far back as January, 1893, but up till now, as far as I know, nothing has been done to rectify matters. The last communication we received, dated 10th January, 1894, from the Postmaster General of Hongkong was in the governmental or "evasive and stereotyped" style that the question is under consideration of H.M.'s Government. Regarding the other matter, the Sungpu massacre, I am afraid, its settlement and the continued apparently culpable neglect of the British and other governments has borne, and is likely to continue to bear, abundant fruit. You remember last August how shocked and horrified we were by the news of the Whasang massacre. You remember with what enthusiasm the great indignation meeting, called under the auspices of the China Association, as mentioned in this report, was attended by members of all nationalities in Shanghai; with what enthusiasm we adopted resolutions to address ourselves directly to the people of the whole world for sympathy and redress. You remember how meetings were held in Hongkong and nearly every treaty port in China in which our example was exactly followed. How it was resolved to be satisfied only by the just punishment of the guilty, and a proper inquiry into the conduct of the native officials. Gentlemen, let us ask ourselves are we satisfied with what has been done. For myself I say a thousand times "No." (Cheers.) The late Viceroy of Szechuen, within whose district trouble, but no murder, had occurred, was disgraced and banished. I have not been able to determine from the newspapers whether he was disgraced because of representations made by the British or French Minister, or if it was because he was, independently of their representations, a discredited individual with his own government, but judging from what has happened at Foochow it seems pretty clear the latter was the reason. The troubles at Cheungtu pale before those at Whasang. It seems to me monstrous that the commission of inquiry should have been so flouted as it was, at the latter place, according to the accounts given by Mr. Bannister. It seems to me grossly unfair if the Viceroy of Szechuen was so severely punished for inadequate protection of foreigners at Cheungtu that the Viceroy at Foochow and some of his insolent underlings should be allowed to go scot free when ten foreigners living under his protection were murdered and when the subsequent inquiry into the matter was conducted on the Chinese side, up to a certain point, in the most offensive and obstructive manner, and I say most emphatically we should not be satisfied with the position in which this affair, as far as we have been informed, has been left. (Applause.) I believe myself it was only because of the manner in which this matter was taken up by the *Times* and the press generally (to whom our most sincere thanks are due) that anything at all was done, and I beg them to continue to urge for the punishment of the officials if they were guilty. I am only fearful that the great *Healer Time* may cause them to let the matter drop. The Hunan publications, I understand, flourish as of yore under the fostering bands of Chou Han and his followers. They are a monument of disgrace to all governments in China, including the Chinese Government, and their immediate suppression should be insisted upon. (Applause.) Perhaps the most important matter brought forward this year by this Committee was the appointment of a High Commissioner to examine into and report to H.M.'s Government on all matters in China connected with British subjects. Our reasons for making the request and our intentions as to what should be done are amply set forth in the report. I will therefore only say that we did not intend the appointment to be in any way a reflection on our Minister and Consul-Generals and Consuls. On the contrary, we intended and expect it to strengthen and support them in the highest degree. We have not received any reply to our request, but we know that Mr. Byron Brennan, a gentleman of exceptional abilities and attainments, has been appointed to make a tour of inspection in China and Japan, and we can only hope that he will make a thorough examination of all matters submitted to him and furnish such a report as will result in any of our grievances that are well founded being redressed. I hope the China Association will

have an opportunity of meeting Mr. Brennan and placing him in possession of their ideas generally. Till we have done so and ascertained his views, so far as he may be able to import them to us, it is not necessary for me to deal further with matters contained in this report. Gentlemen, I am unable to say that this appointment was made owing to the representations of this Committee, but if such should prove to be the case I would take back what I said before and would say now we may almost feel satisfied with our work for this year. (Hear, hear.)

A dinner was afterwards held at which the usual toasts were honoured.

The speech of most general interest at the dinner was that of Captain Winsloe, R.N., who, in responding for the Navy, said—The changes in the British fleet in these waters during the last ten years had been very great. At that period the fleet was represented by an ironclad of the *Audacious* class, two or three corvettes, and the remainder were small ships. The flag was now represented by an ironclad, second to none in our service, four first class cruisers, three of which were armoured, four second-class cruisers of the *Spartan* type, besides a number of smaller ships. This affected their interests in two ways, and the presence of a strong fleet in these waters was indicative that if any game was to be played Great Britain was strong to take a hand in it. It also affected them in another way, which was that every ship that had gone home had been replaced by a stronger and larger vessel, and one drawing more water, so that the Admiral had now very great difficulty in meeting always the demands made upon him as to visiting ports, as he had not always ships at his immediate disposal drawing but little water and able to visit the ports where they were required. The object of having a big fleet was to keep it in a perfect state of efficiency and by that they learned three things, confidence in their leader, confidence in their neighbour, and lastly, confidence in themselves. Without those three things the fleet was useless. They could only get those qualities by the ships cruising in company, and he mentioned that because at times they saw in the newspapers a question as to where was the British fleet, and that it ought to be in such and such a place, but at that time probably the British fleet was cruising not for the benefit of its health but for the benefit of its organisation. (Applause). In late years the speed of vessels had considerably increased, with the result that in a very short time a man-of-war could be sent to any part of the station. This was very much exemplified by a recent incident, when the fleet was some 800 miles away, but yet in seven days the whole fleet was anchored off Nanking. It was therefore not necessary to keep the big ships on the spot when they could be very well away cruising for the benefit of their organisation. Before sitting down he would like again to thank them very much, and, through those present, everyone who subscribed to the *Edgar* fund. Not only did he thank them on behalf of the *Edgar*, but for the whole service, for the kind assistance given by the community on the occasion of the very deplorable accident to the *Edgar's* launch. (Applause).

HONGKONG.

The past week has been characterised by heavy rains, which are unusual at this season, and the reservoirs have received a slight benefit thereby. On Wednesday the remains of Dr. Okotine, of the Russian ship *Imperator Nicolai I.*, were interred with naval honours. On Thursday and Friday the championship competitions in connection with the Victoria Recreation Club took place, and the Governor wound up the interesting display with a very humorous speech. On Friday the shareholders in the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited, held their half-yearly meeting, and on Monday the shareholders in the West Point Building Co., Limited, met.

The German cruisers *Irene* and *Kaiser* left on the 2nd Feb. for Amoy.

We hear that a tiger was trapped and killed by Chinese near Chinwan recently.

Mr. learn that Mr. John Andrew is still at Wuchowfu and is likely to return in a fortnight.

There were 2,381 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 173 were Europeans.

H.M.S. *Immortalité*, Captain Chichester, arrived from England on Saturday to join the China squadron. She is a sister ship to the *Undaunted* and *Narcissus*.

The result of the yearly examination held by Dr. Eitel of the pupils of the British Kowloon College has just been received. All the nineteen pupils presented have passed.

The appointment of the following police officers to be inspectors of nuisances is gazetted:—Inspector D. Bremner, Acting Inspector D. Hall, and Temporary Sergeant P. McNab.

There were 35 in-patients treated at the Alice Memorial Hospital last month and the number of out-patient visits was 1,112. At the Nethersole Hospital the in-patients numbered 37 and the out-patients 40.

We are informed that Captain Hygom, of the steamer *Ask*, reports the Middle Channel buoy at the entrance of the Hainan Straits as out of position and drifting. Steps are being taken to recover and replace the buoy.

At a court martial held on the 29th Jan. on board the *Narcissus* under the presidency of Captain Lang, Lieutenant Gwyn was charged with incapacitation from duty in consequence of drinking to excess. He pleaded guilty and was dismissed the service.

On the 30th Jan. Mr. Lammert offered for sale by public auction the house known as "Welburn," Mount Kellett Road, which is now let at a monthly rental of \$110, exclusive of taxes. There was only a small attendance. The property was put up at \$14,000 and the bidding advanced to \$16,000, but this offer not reaching the reserve the lot was withdrawn. A sale was subsequently effected by private treaty.

Mr. J. R. White, an old resident of Hongkong, who has for the last few years lived at Macao, died at the latter place on Saturday. The remains have been brought to Hongkong and we understand the funeral will be a Masonic one. The late Mr. White formerly belonged to the army and went through the Crimean war and the Indian mutiny. For some years he kept the Star Hotel here.

The steamer *Wingtung* has given up running on the Hongkong and Canton line and it is reported that she is to be sent down to Singapore to trade in the Straits Settlements, being adapted for that trade. It has been decided that the *Kuonghoi*, which was placed on the river by the Steamboat Companies as an extra day boat to run the *Wingtung* off, shall for the present continue to run as a day boat and be held in readiness to cope with any other attempt at competition on this line.

The inquiry concerning the death of Private Baldwin, of the Rifle Brigade, was held by Mr. T. Sercombe Smith on the afternoon of the 30th Jan. Mr. Leigh spoke to finding the skeleton of the deceased in a thicket off Magazine Gap, and a private said that on the 9th September he received a letter from the deceased, who said he had pains in his head and was tired of life. The letter was shown to the commanding officer. His Worship found that the deceased died from privation.

Soon after six o'clock on the evening of the 29th Jan. a fireman on duty in the tower of the Fire Brigade Station saw flames and smoke coming from the direction of West Point. He at once gave the alarm and telephone messages were sent to the various police stations. The Fire Brigade turned out, but their services were fortunately not required, as the outbreak, which had occurred in a stack of grass on the hill side at West Point, was not a serious one, and was very quickly extinguished by men from the West Point Police Station.

The Cup tie played off on the afternoon of the 30th January on the Happy Valley between A Company, R.B., and the Hongkong Football Club resulted in a victory for the latter by one goal to nil. The magnificent football trophy at present being competed for was on view yesterday afternoon on the Happy Valley. It is in the form of a silver cup of great weight, ornamented in a highly artistic manner in the best Chinese style. Pastoral and nautical scenes are depicted on the exterior, while the interior is coated with a layer of highly burnished gold.

The German man-of-war *Arcona*, on arrival at Manila from Amoy, was subjected to three days' quarantine.

Messrs. Warner, Blodgett & Co., in their circular dated Manila, 22nd January, say:—The British bark *Alice Mary*, 361 tons register, en route from Hongkong to Foochow, arrived here on 4th instant with loss of all sails and is still in port awaiting arrival of owner from Shanghai.

At the Magistracy on the 29th Jan. Messrs. Sander and Co. were summoned for dealing in arms without a licence. Mr. R. Becker represented the firm and admitted the offence. No evidence was therefore taken, the defendants being fined \$10. Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. were also summoned for a similar offence. Mr. Crawford said the firm had applied to the Registrar-General for a licence, but they did not receive any reply. The chit book was signed "J. H. S. L." His Worship adjourned the case until to-day to allow the defendants to prove this statement. The case was subsequently withdrawn.

Messrs. Warner, Blodgett & Co., in their circular dated Manila, 22nd January, say:—Quarantine is now imposed upon all arrivals from Hongkong because of a renewed outbreak of plague in that colony. If there is an increase in the number of cases reported, rigorous quarantine will undoubtedly be decreed. At present, four days are imposed upon vessels arriving with Chinese coolies, and three days upon vessels with cargo and cabin passengers only. It is not correct to speak of a renewed outbreak in Hongkong. There have been sporadic cases, but the disease is not epidemic.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong and South China Masonic Benevolence Fund Corporation was held on the afternoon of the 30th Jan. Wor. Bro. G. C. Anderson presiding in the absence of Right Wor. Bro. the Hon. C. P. Chater, the President of the Fund. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Right Wor. Bro. the Hon. C. P. Chater, President; Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, Vice-President; Wor. Bro. S. J. Hanisch, Treasurer, and Wor. Bro. A. O'D. Gourdin, Secretary. The accounts showed an expenditure on charity votes during the year of \$1,116. The funds in hand now amount to \$12,198.

At 12.30 on Saturday morning a fire broke out on the second floor of 302, Queen's Road Central. The Fire Brigade, under Hon. Commander Hastings and Mr. Badeley, quickly turned out, but the whole house was completely gutted before the flames were got under. The fire is supposed to have been caused by the falling of a kerosine lamp. The ground floor was used as a second-hand clothes shop, while the first and second floors were occupied by families. The Chun On Insurance Co. had a line of \$1,400 on the property and the North British and Mercantile Insurance Co. (Messrs. Shewan & Co., Agents) one of \$1,000.

A public address and presentation of silver plate and an address from the College of Medicine for Chinese and the clinical staff of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals will be presented to Dr. Cantlie this afternoon at four o'clock, in the City Hall Chamber of Commerce room. We understand that the public address, &c., will be presented by Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and that from the College and Hospitals by the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Rector of the College and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Hospitals. It is hoped that there will be a large attendance of the public, including ladies.

At the regular meeting of the Victoria Preceptory, held on the afternoon of the 29th January, Sir Knight J. Kirkwood was installed as Eminent Preceptor for the ensuing year by E. Sir Knight G. C. Anderson, after which E. Sir Knight J. Kirkwood appointed his officers as follows:—Prelate, Sir Knight J. Bryant; Constable, Sir Knight J. Kinghorn; Marshal, Sir Knight D. Macdonald; Sub-Marshal, Sir Knight S. L. Darby; Treasurer, Sir Knight E. W. Watts; Registrar, Sir Knight J. Dyer Ball; Captain of the Guard, Sir Knight P. R. Simmonds; Almoner, Sir Knight S. J. Hanisch; D. of Ceremonies, Sir Knight E. J. Main; First Herald, Sir Knight J. Lochead; Second Herald, Sir Knight A. G. Aitken; Organist, Sir Knight E. W. Hall; Guard, Sir Knight J. Maxwell.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to recognise Mr. S. Shimizu as temporarily in charge of the Japanese Consulate.

The "Chronicle and Directory for China, Japan," &c. for 1896 has been issued somewhat later than usual from unavoidable causes. It has been compiled with the greatest possible care, and the latest information obtainable has been incorporated. At the same time every effort has been made to compress the matter wherever it could be done so as to prevent the book becoming unwieldy. The appendix contains two important and interesting additions, in the shape of the Treaty of Shimonoseki and the Liaotung Convention between China and Japan. The usual maps and plans, which have been brought up to date, will be found in their respective places, as well as the coloured print of the house flags. In addition to the numerous directories the vessels of all the respective foreign squadrons in East Asiatic waters and a list of the Japanese Navy corrected to date are given, as well as a directory of all the coasting vessels. The Formosan directory, it will be observed, has been shifted and placed under Japan. The descriptions have again been thoroughly revised and in many cases considerable additions made. Altogether we trust the work will be found to fully sustain its reputation for accuracy and completeness.

On the morning of the 29th Jan. the remains of Dr. Okotine, of the Russian flagship *Imperator Nicolai I.* were interred in the Protestant Cemetery at Happy Valley, and by direction of Admiral Buller naval honours were accorded. The whole of the arrangements were in the hands of Commodore Boyes and they were in every way satisfactory. The procession started from the Royal Naval Hospital at ten o'clock and a most imposing sight was witnessed. The coffin, which was completely hidden by many magnificent wreaths, was carried on a gun carriage drawn by men belonging to the Royal Marine Artillery on the *Centurion*. The pall bearers were Commander Wade, Navigation Officer of the *Centurion*, the senior medical officers of the *Centurion*, *Narcissus*, and *Archer*, the Fleet Engineer, and the Fleet Paymaster of the *Centurion*. The firing party consisted of 200 men from the *Centurion* and 100 men from the *Narcissus* and detachments from the German men-of-war in harbour and the bands of the *Centurion* and *Narcissus* played Mendelssohn's "Dead March" and Beethoven's Funeral March. A very large number of officers followed the remains to the grave, there being present representatives of every man-of-war in the harbour, as well as many officers of the garrison, including Lieut.-Colonel The O'Gorman, and also several private residents. His Excellency the Governor was represented by Captain Stirling, A.D.C., and his Excellency Admiral Buller was represented by his flag lieutenant. The service was conducted at the grave by the Rev. S. St. A. Baylee, of the *Victor Emmanuel*, and at the conclusion the party of marines fired three volleys. Just before the procession, which was a very long one, reached the gate of the cemetery, a pony bolted and raced between the double line of marines, but fortunately its career was stopped in time to prevent an accident.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The Prefect and the two local Magistrates will go in a great procession to the Tung-kau-cheng, outside the East gate, "to receive the Spring" on the 3rd February. According to the Chinese almanack of the 22nd year of Kwang-Su, spring opens on the 4th February. It is customary for the said officials to go to the Tung-kau-cheng on the day previous to hold a service. The Prefect, who is to be dressed in handsome official robes, will hold the reins of a paper cow, as if a farmer about to plough the field. The object of the ceremony is to pray the great creator to grant a favourable crop during the next spring.

The Provincial Treasurer issued a notice the other day to the effect that there will be an eclipse of the moon on the 29th February and that all the officials high and low must put on official robes and kneel down on that day to pray the gods to have mercy on the moon. The ancient

Chinese thought that the eclipse was a danger to the moon and that they should pray for her, therefore this ridiculous custom, which has not been abolished, is still carried on in the present time.

A few days ago two conspirators belonging to a secret society were arrested in Canton. Two wooden seals and some copper dollars were found on their persons. It is said that these conspirators were going to stir up a revolution.

Some days ago a coolie was shot dead by the fan-tan gamblers in Tai-ho-ki, in Canton. The coolie went to gamble and lost some money which he could not pay. The gamblers wanted him to give them his wearing apparel as a pledge, but he refused. One of the gamblers then took his life with a revolver. The case has been squared by the gamblers giving the deceased's family some money as compensation.

Gold has been found in a mountain about sixty li from the city of Lo-ting-chow. A good many people went there last month to try their fortune, but the local Magistrate, fearing that some disturbance might arise from the congregation of gold-diggers, issued a notice a few days ago to stop people going there to search for gold under heavy penalty.

The robbers in Canton are becoming more daring day by day. They now send letters to the shops and well-to-do families to ask for money and threaten that if their demands are not complied with they will come and attack them. A few days ago a shop in Canton received a letter from some robbers asking for a sum of money and the letter said that if their request was not complied with they would come and ruin the shop. The shop people immediately informed the policemen and got everything ready to await the approach of the robbers, but up to the present time nothing has been heard of them.

The new Provincial Treasurer, who has just been promoted from the Judgeship, will go and reside in the yamen of the Provincial Treasurer on the 1st February.

A notorious robber named Li-man and two of his assistants were arrested on the 25th January. A reward of \$2,500 was offered for his arrest. The informer was his cook, who brought the policemen to his house in the village of Shik-cheng. No warning was given, so the men were easily caught. The wife of the robber fired several shots at the policemen, but she was also captured.

On the 28th January a mourning service was held in the house of Tang Sai-cheong, late Captain of the former Chinese cruiser *Chi-yuen*, who lost his life in the battle of Tientsin. The Tartar General, the Provincial Treasurer, and a good many other officers attended the service.

MISCELLANEOUS.

From Peking we (Mecury) learn that Count Cassini has saved the head of Taotai Kung, of Port Arthur fame, as the brother of Kung is Minister to Russia, which caused Count Cassini to intercede. A discussion of over two hours duration took place over the matter in the Palace on the 9th January, in consequence of which it was resolved to banish Kung.

Amongst recent arrivals in Shanghai, says the *China Gazette*, is Mr. Masao Matsugata, second son of the Japanese ex-Minister of Finance, Viscount Matsugata. Mr. Masao, who represents the Imperial Bank of Tokyo, is proceeding to Hongkong, Amoy, and Formosa on a mission of enquiry into the trade between the mainland of China and the "Beautiful Island."

Sheng Hsio-jen, the father of Sheng Taotai, has obtained permission from Governor Chao of Kiangsu to build a mint at Soochow for the coining of dollars and subsidiary money. The works will be inside the Sunen gate and the machinery from Europe is expected to arrive at Shanghai within the next six weeks. The Governor has advanced Tls. 50,000 for the purpose.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Some time ago the Japanese authorities at Port Arthur were accused of discourtesy for having refused to allow the Norwegian steamer *Nanking* to dock there. The *Japan Mail* says:—We have made careful inquiry into this incident and the particulars, obtained on the best authority, are these:—About noon on the 12th

of November the master of a Norwegian steamer called at the Port Admiral's offices at Port Arthur, and asked permission to bring his ship into the harbour and dock her, as she had lost two of her propeller's four blades. The instructions of the naval authorities at Port Arthur were that no foreign merchantman should be admitted unless she was in a state of distress. The *Nanking* was not in a state of distress. She had, indeed, lost two of her propeller's blades, but was able to steam four knots with the two remaining, and, in all other respects, was perfectly sound. To dock her and effect the necessary repairs would have required a week—three days to empty the dock and three to replace the blades—and her port of destination, Yingkow, was likely to be closed by ice before that time. Under the circumstances, and having no competence to admit a vessel in her condition, the naval authorities at Port Arthur recommended the master either to run across to Chefoo, only 80 miles distant, or to proceed at once to his destination, Yingkow. He adopted the former course, missed the proper channel, and ran his ship on the rocks. The loss of the ship was due, not to the absence of two of her propeller's blades, but to her taking the wrong channel. Further, it appears that she arrived off Chefoo at 4 a.m. on November 13th, having left Port Arthur at 2 p.m. on the preceding day. Thus she made the run of 80 miles in fourteen hours; that is to say, at the rate of nearly six miles an hour—conclusive proof that she was not "disabled."

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1895-96	1894-95
Canton and Macao	7,140,399	7,833,790
Amoy	459,419	716,399
Foochow	11,175,408	11,357,218
Shanghai and Hankow	21,111,512	21,591,499
	40,197,438	44,508,846

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96	1894-95
Amoy	11,834,331	17,901,979
Foochow	6,666,651	4,626,555
Shanghai	29,029,320	25,793,160
	47,530,302	47,424,694

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1895-96	1894-95
Shanghai and Hongkong	27,108,663	22,555,223

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96	1894-95
Yokohama	29,566,650	28,162,134
Kobe	18,434,402	16,180,773
	48,001,052	44,342,927

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 30th January.—(From Messrs. Camille and Burhill's circular.)—London advices up to the 28th inst. report the market quiet. Gold Kuling S., Blue Elephant 10/6. Deliveries from 1st to 28th, 700 bales. Raw Silk.—The market is extremely quiet without any material change in prices. Tsatlees.—About 100 bales have been booked at quotations given below; the demand is very quiet. Hangchow Tsatlees.—About 50 bales have changed hands. Taysaams.—No business to report. Yellow Silk.—About 100 bales have changed hands, and coarse kinds are in request, but the selection now offering is a small one. Arrivals, as per Customs House Returns from 23rd to 29th January, are 815 bales of White Silk, 176 bales of Yellow, and 113 bales of Wild Silk. Rreeks and Filatures.—No business to report. Wild Silk.—Demand is very moderate, but prices are maintained. Porgies.—About 1,000 pieces of Samting Porgies have changed hands at Tls. 180 to Tls. 315 a cording to weight and quality. Parcels include—Tsatlees—Red Pagoda 3 at Tls. 127½, Huatah Stark Chayling at Tls. 300.

Hangchow Tsatlees.—Lanhook at Tls. 330. Yellow Silk.—Wongchow at Tls. 202½.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	44,397	42,558
Canton	12,522	12,121
Yokohama	15,858	14,933
	72,777	69,612

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Canton	9,017	6,418
Shanghai	8,112	6,403
Yokohama	21,843	21,151
	42,002	33,972

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 4th February.—Stocks are accumulating and the downward movement in prices continues. Quotations for Formosa are \$70.00 to \$70.50. During the past week sales have been 150 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 4th February.—The market remains dull. Following are the quotations:—
 Sacklong No. 1, White... \$7.32 to 7.35 per picul.
 do. " 2, White... 6.71 to 6.75 "
 Sacklong No. 1, Brown... 4.68 to 4.71 "
 do. " 2, Brown... 4.58 to 4.60 "
 Sacklong No. 1, White... 7.17 to 7.20 "
 do. " 2, White... 6.65 to 6.68 "
 do. " 1, Brown... 4.67 to 4.68 "
 Sacklong No. 2, Brown... 4.50 to 4.53 "
 Foochow Sugar Candy... 10.85 to 10.90 "
 Sacklong " " 9.74 to 9.78 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The P. & O. steamer *Peshawar*, Hongkong to London, 30th January, took:—5 cases Silk Piece Goods, 11 cases Bristles, 20 Vermillion, and 1 case Cigars; for France:—260 bales Waste Silk, 5 cases Silk Piece Goods, and 250 boxes Tea; for Milan:—40 bales Raw Silk; for Odessa:—6 bales Raw Silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 4th February.—Bengal.—There has been a further rise in prices during the interval, and the market closes firm at \$792½ for New Patna \$800 for Old Patna, \$775 for New Benares, and \$795 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—A better feeling has prevailed in the market during the period under review, and rates have improved. The following are the latest figures:—

New \$740 with allowance to 1 catty
 Old (2 yrs.) \$750 " " to 1 "
 Old (3 ") \$760 " " from ½ to 1 "
 Persian.—There has been nothing doing in this drug during the past week. Quotations continue unaltered, Paper wrapped drug being valued nominally at \$700 to \$765 and Oily at \$630 to \$660, according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—
 New Patna 406 chests
 Old Patna 1,162 "
 New Benares 639 "
 Old Benares 510 "
 Malwa 270 "
 Persian 1,350 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Jan. 30	788½	800	760	797½	740	750/760
Jan. 31	795	802½	762½	795	740	750/760
Feb. 1	792½	800	760	795	740	750/760
Feb. 2	792½	800	760	795	740	750/760
Feb. 3	790	800	760	795	740	750/760
Feb. 4	792½	800	775	795	740	750/760

RICE.

HONGKONG, 4th February.—Advance in prices continues. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary \$2.40 to 2.42 per picul.
 " Round, good quality 2.52 to 2.55 "
 " Long 2.63 to 2.70 "

Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	2.50 to 2.53
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	2.80 to 2.82
Siam, White,	3.20 to 3.23
" Fine Cargo	3.35 to 3.38

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 4th February.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—25 bales No. 6 at \$47, 25 bales No. 8 at \$68, 56½ bales No. 10 at \$72 to \$78.50, 355 bales No. 12 at \$2 to \$77.50, 50 bales No. 16 at \$86.50 to \$92, 280 bales No. 20 at \$85.50 to \$89.50. *Grey Shirtings.*—1,500 bales 8½ lbs. Feeling at \$2.80, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Place at \$3.40. *White Shirtings.*—1,500 pieces Black Peach at 220, 1,000 pieces 1 at \$2.90, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.67½, 1,000 pieces Gold Dragon at \$5.40, 500 pieces Blue Dragon at \$5. *T. Cloths.*—300 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican V.V. at \$2.96, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Crown at \$2.72½.

METALS.—Iron.—2,000 bundles Hoops at \$4.37½. Tin.—100 slabs Siam at \$35.50, 100 cases Tinplates at \$5.20.

SHANGHAI, 30th January.—(From Mr. Geo. W. Noël's report.)—Undeterred by the large shipments coming out the dealers who remain here continue indenting for certain classes of Manchester goods, whenever an opportunity occurs of picking up a parcel slightly under current quotations, this, together with a moderate enquiry for the same staples for delivery after the native holidays, being the only features of interest to report upon this week. Transactions for prompt clearance have virtually ceased now, and the due dates of the auctions extended a week or so, as customary. Some of the foreign banks, wishing to draw, offered a favourable opportunity to the dealers to get cover for a part of their indents during the early part of the week, a fair amount being settled at 3s. for two or three months ahead; but the demand proved greater than the supply and rates soon receded again. As shown by the settlements reported the market is certainly firm, but the prices realised at the public sales are somewhat disappointing, though no doubt this is accounted for, to some extent, by delivery being required too soon after the settling day, last year's experiences of the native banks withholding the issue of their credits for some weeks possibly having something to do with it. Nothing is mentioned in American makes; however, it does not follow that nothing has been done, as during December scarcely any business was reported, but it is said the shipments to this market amounted to 17,000 bales that month! The shipments during November were about 5,500 bales, against 2,000 bales the same month in 1894. This gives some idea of what the available supply will be at the commencement of the season.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—(From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's report.)—31st January:—The situation remains the same, and the general tone on this side is one of dullness, and little else can be expected for the next three or four weeks. In the meantime home markets are advancing or remaining very firm owing to the all round improvement of trade. Lead.—I have nothing special to report, beyond a sale of 250 tons L.B. at Tls. 5.26, "to arrive," which is below replacing cost at the moment, which is nearer Tls. 5.37½ to Tls. 5.40. Iron.—Prospects appear fair, for after Chinese New Year, but importers in many cases, according to their own reports, seem to be selling at a dead loss, for what reason no one can fathom. Others again experience, so they tell me, no difficulty in obtaining full covering value. There is no demand for goods for prompt clearance, and enquiries "to arrive" have fallen off somewhat. Nailrods.—Nothing fresh to report, beyond further advances on the other side. Scotch Bamboo Steel is said to have been done at Tls 3.65 and 30 cases of Copper Sheathing at Tls. 23.25.

TUESDAY, 4th February.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/1½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	—
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.70
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.75

ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.18
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	—
Credits, 60 days' sight	—
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	183½
Bank, on demand	183½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	183½
Bank, on demand	183½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	par.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	7 ½ pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	par.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	9.14
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	48

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 4th February.—The market continues to rule dull and we have little of any importance to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have slightly improved and sales have been effected at 181½ and 182 per cent. prem. cash and at 190 for May and 193 for June; at time of writing shares are obtainable for forward delivery, but cash are not too plentiful and even a small demand would doubtless send the rate up a point or two. Nationals remain unchanged and neglected.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Beyond small sales of Yangtszes at \$121 and North-Chinas at \$220 we have nothing to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have improved to \$289 with small sales. Chinas have ruled weak at \$91.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have been in some demand and have changed hands at \$36½ and \$36¾ cum div. and at \$35.50 and \$35.75 ex div., market closing firm at latter rate; a sale is reported at \$37 cum div. for end of the month. Douglasses have changed hands in fair lots at \$50½, and more shares are wanted at the rate; at \$51, however, they are still obtainable. Indo-Chinas have found buyers up North at \$57, and more are wanted at the rate. China-Manilas have ruled neglected.

REFINERIES.—Still continue neglected with no business to report.

MINING.—Punjoms have further improved their position, and we have to report sales at \$5.50, \$5.75, and \$6 during the week; at time of writing market is easier with reported sales at \$5.75. Jelebus have advanced to \$3 after sales at \$2.80 and \$2.85. Raubs have ruled steady at \$4.10 with small sales. Balmorals continue neglected.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled quiet with small sales at 148 per cent. prem., at which rate shares are now vainly enquired for; at 149 a few small lots are obtainable. The half-yearly meeting is called for the 24th inst., and transfer books close on the 10th. Kowloon Wharves have remained quiet at \$47½ without sales. The half-yearly meeting is called for the 17th inst., and the transfer books close on the 8th. Nothing has as yet been settled as to the disposal of profits for half-year ending 31st Dec., but we have good grounds for stating that the final dividend will in all probability be the same as last year, i.e., \$1.75. No business to report further under this heading.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Lands have found further investing buyers at \$68 and \$68½, closing firm at latter rate. Hotels have again advanced and are now in demand at \$21, after sales at that and at \$20½. West Points remain unchanged with no business to report. At the meeting held yesterday the chairman stated that the buildings were filling up and that prospects were brighter. Market closes at \$18.50 ex div. nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Under this heading we have only to report small sales of Fenwicks at \$21, Ices at \$102, and Ewo Cotton Mills at from \$59½ to \$60.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS
Banks—		[\$351.37½ sales]
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	181½ p. ct. prem., nominal
China & Japan, prf.	£110s.	nominal
Do. ordinary	£1	£2, buyers
Do. deferred	£1	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$105, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s.	\$10, sellers
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	\$5, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$5, buyers
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$9, ex div.
China Sugar	\$100	\$111
Chinese Loan '86 E.	Tls. 250	10 p. ct. prem.
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$9
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$21, sales & buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$14, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$100, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$6.75
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$84, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$21, sales & buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$102, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$17½, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$150, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	148 p. c. prem., nominal
Insurances—		[\$310, sales & buyers]
Canton	\$50	\$150, sellers
China Fire	\$50	\$91, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$74, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$289, buyers
North-China	£25	Tls. 220 s. & sellers
Straits	\$20	\$25, sellers
Union	\$25	\$195, sellers
Yangtsze	\$60	\$121, sales & buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$68½, sales & buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$91, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$15.25, ex div.
West Point Building	\$40	\$184, ex div.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$59, sellers
Mining—		
Charlommages	Fcs. 500	\$72½
Jeleba	\$5	\$3, sales & sellers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$1.60
Punjom	\$4	\$5.75, sales
Do. (Preference)	\$1	\$1.70, buyers
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$4.10, sales & buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$70, sellers
China Shippers	£5	£2.10 [buyers]
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$50½, sales & [buyers]
H. Canton and M.	\$20	\$55.75, ex div. s. &
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$57, ex div. sales &
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$42, sellers [buyers]
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11½, sellers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 31st January:—(From Messrs. J. P. Biset & Co.'s report.)—Business has been fairly active. The market for Hongkong & Shanghai Bank shares is recovering. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares were purchased on the 24th from Hongkong at 182 p. c. prem. (\$352.50) for delivery on the 31st March. The news of an advance in the price in London caused an improvement in rates and shares were purchased from Hongkong at 190 per cent. premium (\$362.50) for delivery on 31st May, and at 193 per cent. premium (\$366.25) for delivery on 3th June. The cash rate in Hongkong is 181 per cent. premium (\$351.25), with buyers. The London rate is £42 5.0. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have been sold at Tls. 42 cash. Docks.—There is no change to report in Boyd & Co. shares. Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. have been placed at Tls. 185 and 185½. Hongkong and Whampoa Docks shares have changed hands in Hongkong at 148 per cent. premium (\$310.00). It is reported that this Company will pay a dividend of 12 per cent. and a bonus of 10 per cent. to contributors of business, carry \$20,000 to a fund for the equalisation of dividends, and carry \$5,000 forward. Marine Insurance.—North-Chinas have been sold at Tls. 220 cash and Tls. 225 for 31st March, Unions at \$207 for April, Yangtszes at \$121 cash, and Straits at \$25 and \$25½ cash and \$27 for 31st March. Fire Insurance.—Business on our market has been confined to Chinas, which have been placed at \$31. Mining.—Itaub A.G.M. shares have been sold to Hongkong at \$1.90, and are wanted. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares have been placed at Tls. 210 cash and Tls. 220 for 31st March and 15th April. Co-operatives have been sold at Tls. 190 cash. Sugars.—Periks have changed hands at Tls 33 and Tls. 34½. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares, with Tls. 30 paid up, have been sold to Hongkong at Tls. 50, and are wanted. A final

dividend of 4½ per cent. will be paid, making 7½ per cent. for the year. Factories.—Shares in Major Brothers have been sold at Tls. 23½, Tls. 27, and Tls. 28, and are wanted at the latter price. Ewo Cotton shares, with Tls. 75 paid up, were parted with at Tls. 60. They are in strong demand at this rate. International shares are wanted at Tls. 47½. Laon-Kung-Mow shares changed hands at Tls. 47½. Miscellaneous.—Business was done in:—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 99 cash, in Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares at Tls. 235 to Tls. 240 cash; Tls. 245 and Tls. 260 for March, at Tls. 260 for May, and Tls. 265 for April, in Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares at Tls. 53, in J. Llewellyn and Co. shares at \$60, and in Hall & Holtz shares at \$30.

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 31st January (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—Since our last issue there has been no change to record in freights homewards, and the same remark applies to the quantity of cargo offering for shipment, a fair demand existing for steam tonnage to New York, while for London, matters remain as dull as they possibly can. Coal freights from Japan have reached bed-rock, and it has become a question with available steamers whether they can accept charters now offering without incurring a loss by so doing. Rates of freight are:—From Shanghai to London by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; Northern Continental ports, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; New York, general cargo 30s.; tea 30s.; New York via London, general cargo 50s.; tea 50s.; Boston, general cargo 32s. 6d.; Philadelphia, general cargo 40s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London by Shell Line, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent.; Hamburg, general cargo 35s. net; New York, general cargo 50s. less 10 per cent. Havre direct, general cargo 37s. 6d. net; Genoa, tallow 35s. general cargo 40s. net; Marseilles, tallow 35s.; general cargo 37s. 6d. net. 45s. per ton of 20 bwt. for above three ports. New York by sail, 26s.; New York by Pacific Lines, tea 1 cent gold. Coast rates are:—Moji to Shanghai 95 cents per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai 95 cents per ton coal. Disengaged vessel in port.—*Lynwood*, British barque, 1,149 tons register.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Pekin* (str.), *Aden* (str.), *Merionethshire* (str.), *Borneo* (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—*Glaesck* (str.).
For HAVRE.—*Dorothea Rickmers* (str.), *Oceana* (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Bradley Castle*, China (str.), *Coptic* (str.), *Formosa*.
For VICTORIA.—*Victoria* (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.).
For HONOLULU.—*Mount Lebanon* (str.).
For NEW YORK.—*Lenox* (str.), *Daniel Barnes*.
For AUSTRALIA.—*Chingtu* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

ARRIVALS.

January—
30, *Cerastes*, German bark, from Menado.
30, *Repton*, British str., from Bangkok.
31, *Singan*, British str., from Canton.
31, *Kwanglee*, Chinese str., from Canton.
31, *J. Christensen*, Norw. str., from Saigon.
31, *Foochow*, British str., from Canton.
31, *Haitan*, British str., from Coast Ports.
31, *Oscarshaf*, German str., from Bangkok.
31, *Phra Nang*, British str., from Bangkok.
31, *Wootan*, German str., from Saigon.
31, *Bennohr*, British str., from London.
31, *Achilles*, British str., from Moji.
31, *Mount Lebanon*, Brit. str., from Portland.
31, *Yungching*, Chinese str., from Wuhu.
31, *Feecheu*, Chinese str., from Foochow.
31, *Apenrade*, German str., from Saigon.
31, *Kiangpak*, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
31, *Kweiyang*, British str., from Moji.
February—
1, *Chihli*, British str., from Canton.
1, *Daphne*, German str., from Canton.
1, *Kutsang*, British str., from Calcutta.
1, *Zafiro*, British str., from Manila.
1, *Choyang*, British str., from Canton.
1, *Clara*, German str., from Amoy.
1, *Immortalite*, British str., from Singapore.
1, *Exe*, British str., from Barry.
1, *Fushun*, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
1, *Karlsruhe*, German str., from Shanghai.
1, *Lennox*, British str., from Amoy.

1, *Melbourne*, French str., from Marseilles.
1, *Triumph*, German str., from Hoihow.
1, *Amigo*, German str., from Bangkok.
2, *Barcelona*, Spanish str., from Manila.
2, *Decima*, German str., from Canton.
2, *Dordogne*, French str., from Shanghai.
2, *Iser*, British str., from Yokohama.
2, *Kaisow*, British str., from Amoy.
2, *Kansu*, British str., from Canton.
2, *Tantalus*, British str., from Liverpool.
2, *Thekla*, German str., from Kobe.
2, *Hohenzollern*, German str., from Japan.
2, *Brunhilde*, German str., from Bangkok.
2, *Kashing*, British str., from Shanghai.
2, *Fooksang*, British str., from Canton.
2, *Paoting*, British str., from Wuhu.
2, *P. C. C. Kiao*, British str., from Bangkok.
2, *Taiyick*, German str., from Saigon.
2, *Wing Hong*, British str., from Swatow.
2, *Glenavon*, British str., from London.
2, *Irene*, Chinese str., from Wuhu.
2, *Victoria*, British str., from Tacoma.
2, *Natal*, French str., from Shanghai.
2, *Activ*, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
2, *Aden*, British str., from Yokohama.
2, *Chingtu*, British str., from Moji.
2, *Pakhoi*, British str., from Singapore.
2, *Poyang*, German str., from Chinkiang.
2, *Cosmopolit*, German str., from Swatow.
2, *Formosa*, British str., from Tamsui.
2, *Hoihow*, British str., from Woosung.
2, *Sikh*, British str., from Liverpool.

DEPARTURES.

January—
2, *Airlie*, British str., for Shanghai.
2, *Ask*, Danish str., for Hoihow.
2, *Choyang*, British str., for Canton.
2, *Kwong Mo*, British str., for Amoy.
2, *Memmuir*, British str., for Australia.
2, *Thales*, British str., for Swatow.
2, *Wing Hong*, British str., for Swatow.
2, *Yuen-sang*, British str., for Manila.
2, *Bellona*, German str., for Yokohama.
2, *Keong Wai*, British str., for Hoihow.
2, *Peshawar*, British str., for Europe.
2, *Taisang*, British str., for Swatow.
2, *Cosmopolit*, German str., for Swatow.
2, *Saltun*, Norw. str., for Bangkok.
2, *Taisang*, British str., for Shanghai.
2, *Foochow*, British str., for Shanghai.
2, *Germania*, German str., for Saigon.
2, *Glamorganshire*, Brit. str., for Singapore.
2, *Hinsung*, British str., for Singapore.
2, *Hong Leong*, British str., for Amoy.
2, *Hydaspos*, British str., for Singapore.
2, *Lycemoon*, German str., for Shanghai.
2, *Piedola*, German str., for Saigon.
2, *Singan*, British str., for Shanghai.
2, *Verona*, British str., for Yokohama.

February

1, *Achilles*, British str., for London.
1, *Chihli*, British str., for Karatsu.
1, *Frejr*, Danish str., for Hoihow.
1, *Kwanglee*, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
1, *Lightning*, British str., for Calcutta.
1, *Sungkiang*, British str., for Manila.
1, *Yungching*, Chinese str., for Canton.
2, *Belgie*, British str., for San Francisco.
2, *China*, German str., for Saigon.
2, *Chittagang*, British str., for Saigon.
2, *Haitan*, British str., for Swatow.
2, *Hanoi*, French str., for Haiphong.
2, *Kansu*, British str., for Wuhu.
2, *Kiangpak*, Chinese str., for Canton.
2, *Kaiser*, German cruiser, for Amoy.
2, *Melbourne*, French str., for Shanghai.
2, *Irene*, German cruiser, for Amoy.
2, *Ask*, Danish str., for Saigon.
2, *Oslo*, Norw. str., for Saigon.
2, *John R. Kelly*, Amr. ship, for New York.
2, *Choyang*, British str., for Swatow.
2, *Fushun*, Chinese str., for Canton.
2, *Kashing*, British str., for Canton.
2, *Oceana*, German str., for Yokohama.
2, *Paoting*, British str., for Canton.
2, *Triumph*, German str., for Hoihow.
2, *Adowa*, British str., for Shanghai.
2, *Apenrade*, German str., for Saigon.
2, *Bennohr*, British str., for Hyogo.
2, *Fooksang*, British str., for Swatow.
2, *Holstein*, German str., for Saigon.
2, *Irene*, Chinese str., for Canton.
2, *Iser*, British str., for Canton.
2, *Karlsruhe*, German str., for Europe.
2, *Kweiyang*, British str., for Bangkok.
2, *Kaisow*, British str., for London.
2, *Pakhoi*, British str., for Shanghai.
2, *Tantalus*, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Choyang*, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Marshal, Messrs. Ford, Logan, Haes-loop, and Lee.
Per *Alster*, sch., from Carolines—Messrs. Brocker and Schmidt.
Per *Phra Nang*, str., from Bangkok—Dr. Peoples.
Per *Haitan*, str., from Coast Ports—Lieut. Woolcombe, R.N., Mr. Wenyon, Lieut. Cold, Mr. Wing Ching Chu.
Per *Kutsang*, str., from Calcutta, &c.—Rev. Lefroy, Messrs. Chas. T. Robinson and G. J. L. Litton, and 653 Chinese.
Per *Zafiro*, str., from Manila.—Mr. Luiji.
Per *Iser*, str., from Yokohama, &c.—Mrs. Austen and family.
Per *Fushun*, str., from Shanghai.—Mr. and Mrs. Robinson and family.
Per *Tantalus*, str., from Manchester, &c., for Hongkong—Mr. Ryde for Shanghai; Mr. M. M. Rudrodin.
Per *Karlsruhe*, str., from Shanghai.—Messrs. E. Schmidt, H. Schmidt, R. Lindner, B. Buschmann, E. R. Jellison, H. Krebs, E. Warneken, Dr. Arendt, Miss Cadwallader, Sister May.
Per *Melbourne*, str., for Hongkong from Marseilles—Messrs. Reynaud and W. Sackronig. From Batavia—Mr. Lian-hen. From Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Moramuch, Miss Eva Porter, Messrs. Appleton, Ah Sin, Clary Brown, and Yazi. From Saigon—Mr. and Mrs. Boucher, and Mr. Koch. For Shanghai from Marseilles—Messrs. Noregaar, Brunat, and Caffiney. From Saigon—Mr. Le Pinice. For Kobe from Marseilles—Mr. T. Crevatier. For Yokohama from Marseilles—Mrs. R. Nicolas, Messrs. A. de Bounhoff and Dubois. From Bombay—Mr. Moosaboy. From Madras—Mr. Tokazaiva. From Colombo—Mr. H. G. Alston.
Per *Hohenzollern*, steamer, from Nagasaki.—Messrs. Albrecht, Davis, Johnstone, Chidler, McCallum, Henderson, Bevis, Masuda, Capt. Bond, Mitake, Nonake, Sato, and Yamamoto.
Per *Glenavon*, str., from London, &c.—Messrs. Hinde and Killale.

DEPARTED.

Per *Peshawar*, str., from Hongkong for Singapore—Messrs. W. G. Wrench, Wing Hop, Lop Kee, Mr. and Mrs. Chan Yue. For Bombay—Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Smith. For Brindisi—Mr. and Mrs. L. Roe, and Mr. J. C. Donaldson Sim. For Adelaide—Messrs. Cha Lock and Cha Chung. For Melbourne—Messrs. Chan In Chim, Chan In Cho, and Leung Yun Kam. For London—Messrs. J. P. Sellers, C. H. Jones, R.N., and H. Lambe. From Shanghai for London—Mr. and Mrs. Colin M. Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Tomkinson and 3 children, Misses Lennox and Thirgood, Mr. C. Champion. From Japan for Singapore—Mr. C. Youle. For Ismailia—Messrs. C. De Mansfield and T. E. Peters. For London—Messrs. H. Hapgood and H. T. Taylor.
Per *Memmuir*, str., for Australia.—Mr. and Mrs. Shainwald, Miss Shainwald, Mr. and Mrs. Goodson, Mr. Lemm.
Per *Airlie*, str., for Shanghai—Mr. and Miss Thorp, Miss Tunnicliffe, Mr. J. Hayes.
Per *Yuen-sang*, str., for Manila—Rev. W. F. Garcia, Rev. W. B. Escalere, and Mr. A. G. White.
Per *Taisang*, str., for Shanghai—Masters Brenan (2), and Mr. G. W. Appleby.
Per *Verona*, str., for Yokohama, &c., from Hongkong—Messrs. J. B. Norman and C. E. Freet. From London, ex *Ravenna*—Mr. Holme. From Brindisi—Mr. E. Fisher. From Colombo—Mr. and Mrs. Hilton and (2) Misses Hilton.
Per *Belgie*, str., for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. Philips. For Yokohama—Messrs. H. P. Wadman, J. A. Polakoff, T. D. McKay, W. Bishop, E. P. S. Whitall. For San Francisco—Prince A. Dolgoronki, Rev. C. A. Lefroy, and Wm. Melchers. For New York—Miss L. Cunningham. For London—Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Fearon and daughter, Mrs. Glover. For Paris—Lieut. A. A. Lopes Navarro.
Per *Lightning*, str., for Calcutta—Rev. MacLagan, Messrs. MacKenzie, Soupadon, and Saif Ali Khan. For Penang—Mr. D. E. Daniel, Mr. Shum Pak Tong. For Singapore—Mrs. Cheung Sam, Miss Chan, Lieut. Douglas, Mrs. Chan Kwai Shin, Mrs. Heung Sze, Mrs. Tsang Yee, Mr. and Mrs. Ip Loong Hing, Mrs. Etain and 3 daughters.